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THURSDAY APRIL 11TH, 2019

**Changes to health board could lead to
earlier hip operations - see page 3.**

**'Better enforcement on fouling, parking
and littering needed' - turn to page 13.**

Developers propose a new look for Porthcawl's sea front

A new look is being planned for Porthcawl seafront with plans unveiled to redevelop the Pier Hotel, and also put up a second building - in the same style - on the site next door.

At a special meeting of Porthcawl Town Council, held in the Pier Hotel, owner Steve Rock said he was keen to show the plans at an early stage to get feedback on the project.

Councillors agreed that it would transform the look of the present end of the promenade, where next to the Pier Hotel is a great hole in the ground - a legacy of Dunraven Court flats, which were demolished some years ago.

Councillors were given a presentation on the plans by Kieren Morgan of Boyes Rees Architects, who was at pains to emphasise that the project was in its early stages.

He said that the next stage would be to move onto more detailed studies of any construction issues and the cost of materials, etc.

He said that the team behind the project were aware of mixed feelings in Porthcawl about the Esplanade House building (known by many locals as the 'bottle bank') and they were keen to produce a modern building that would still be in keeping with the sea front.

He described Porthcawl as having a "modest Victorian facade" so, although the proposed buildings would be modern, it was intended for them to blend in by using similar colours.

In a discussion that followed, Cllr Steve Maitland Thomas asked if the buildings would complement the soon-to-be-started Maritime Centre, which would be across the road, and Mr Morgan said that was the intention.

The plan envisages converting the Pier Hotel into apartments, with the ground floor available for bars and restaurants that would encourage people to sit outside on sunny days - extending the promenade as a result.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Children's posters support Porthcawl's summer litter campaign



Mary's design showing a whale eating plastic was selected as a winning poster from Newton Primary.

POSTERS designed by schoolchildren are spearheading a campaign to reduce litter on Porthcawl's streets and beaches this summer.

Featuring colourful artwork and creative slogans encouraging residents and visitors to bin their waste, the posters will soon appear around the town as part of the 'Porthcawl... Love It, Don't Trash It' campaign.

A joint collaboration between Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC), Keep Wales Tidy and

Porthcawl Town Council, together with Sea Quest, the initiative has captured the imagination of hundreds of children.

Each of Porthcawl's four primary schools, plus St Clare's School, have taken part in the project.

The overall winning design - created by Porthcawl Primary School pupil Lilia - shows an octopus weighed down with several items of litter, together with her slogan 'Don't let litter get out of hand'.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Samantha B
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New carers' wellbeing service set to launch in Bridgend

A NEW wellbeing service to support unpaid carers living in Bridgend county borough is set to launch this spring.

The 'Carers Wellbeing Service' will give anyone who provides unpaid care for a relative, neighbour or friend the chance to get information, advice and guidance about support available.

The service is managed by Carers Trust South East Wales and run in partnership with Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC).

Bridgend county borough has a higher percentage of carers (12.5 per cent) than the national average (10 per cent) and one of the key aims of the new service will be to identify people with a caring role who are not receiving the support to which they are entitled.

Carers Trust South East Wales chief executive Gareth Howells said: "We have already held positive meetings with other organisations supporting carers in Bridgend county

borough and it has been great to hear the enthusiasm about building local partnerships to deliver this new service."

Cllr Dhanisha Patel, cabinet member for wellbeing and future generations at BCBC, said: "Before Carers Trust South East Wales was appointed, a full tender process was carried out to ensure that this new partnership can build on the positive work that has already been achieved, and help the authority to maximise the amount of support available for local residents."

Cllr Phil White, cabinet member for social services and early help, added: "The new service will raise awareness of issues affecting carers, help them to access appropriate support and information, and encourage the establishment of stronger, carer-friendly communities."

For more information about the Carers Wellbeing Service, contact Nyree George-Titley on 01495 769996 or email nyree.george-titley@ctsew.org.uk.

Older People's Commissioner visits Young at Heart

CEFN Cribwr Young at Heart, a popular over 50s group run by Enid Lloyd and hard-working volunteers, welcomed a distinguished guest to one of their meetings recently.

At the request of Ogmor AM Huw Iwan Davies, a regular visitor to the group, the Older People's Commissioner for Wales, Helena Herklots, was invited to enjoy a cuppa and a chat with the Young at Heart members.

During her visit, the

Commissioner spoke about her role, older people's rights, advocacy and making Wales the best place to grow older.

Ms Herklots, said: "It was a pleasure to visit the Cefn Cribwr Young at Heart group to hear from members about their experiences. Groups like this play a vital role in our communities, helping older people to get out and about, socialise and meet new people, and it was wonderful to see the positive difference that Young at Heart is making to older people's lives."

March was a busy month for the Porthcawl NCI



IN March, the National Coastwatch Institution (NCI) in Porthcawl logged and monitored 118 commercial vessels, 284 leisure and 18 others.

Leisure vessel movements were 61 per cent of all vessels logged, and 536 hours of watchkeeping were undertaken during the month.

March was a very busy month for us indeed, with eight logged and 15 monitored incidents. The logged incidents ranged from Mayday calls to hazards to navigation, from missing persons to commercial vessel issues. So far in 2019, we have been involved with 19 logged incidents compared to 11 in the same period in 2018. Thirteen of these incidents have involved usage of the surveillance cameras, 10 being monitored with the live web link to the Coastguard.

We look forward to making a presentation at the RNLI crew room in May, followed by a visit to the Tower for all the new RNLI Lifeguard recruits for Rest Bay, Sandy/ Trecco Bay and Ogmor beaches for the 2019 season.

We enjoyed an excellent choral evening at Porthcawl Grand Pavilion at the end of March, thanks to Kenfig Hill and District Male Voice Choir, soloist Charlotte Vaughan and the compere for the evening, Dean Powell. Thanks to everyone who attended and supported the event!

Finally, a few months ago we were visited by TV Weatherman Derek Brockway, filming for his Weatherman Walking programme. The episode we were involved in will be broadcast on Friday, May 17 at 7.30pm on BBC One Wales.

NW

Two winners on Coity community award evening

THERE were two winners in this year's Coity Higher Community Council awards, with senior and junior award being presented.

Bill Daniel was the winner of the senior award for 2018.

A council spokesperson said: "Since moving to Parc Derwen, Bill has not only set up the Keep Coity Tidy group and spent hours clearing up rubbish, he also drove stranded health workers to work during the snow last year and often bakes Welsh cakes and sells them outside Coity Primary School with his granddaughter to raise money for the school."

He raises funds for other charities too. "He's always the first to volunteer and help out and the community council was delighted to present him with the award."

On March 14, Mr and Mrs Daniel were invited to the council meeting where Bill was presented with an engraved shield, along with a small gift and Mrs Daniel was presented with a bouquet of flowers. Both were presented by the chair of Council, Cllr Martin Williams.

The spokesperson added: "Congratulations also go to Megan Casson, winner of our junior annual Community Award for 2018."

"Megan was nominated in recognition of her fundraising work in the community and for her volunteering work when events are organised in Coity village."

Megan was also invited to the Community Council meeting where she was presented with an engraved shield, along with a £20 gift card, which was presented by Cllr Williams.

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Brexit business advice in Bridgend

BRIDGEND County Borough Council (BCBC) is urging any businesses in the county that have not yet done so to contact the local authority or the Bridgend Business Forum for advice and guidance in the event of a no-deal Brexit.

The council's interim chief executive, Mark Shephard, said the local authority had been working with companies based within the county for some time.

In an announcement read out on his behalf at a full council meeting in March, he said: "The Minister for Economy and Transport, Ken Skates, has contacted all local authorities to stress the importance of helping businesses make adequate preparations for the possibility of a no-deal Brexit."

"We have been working with businesses, but

there is always the possibility of a small enterprise or a solo trader who may not be in contact with either the council or Bridgend Business Forum.

"I'm asking councillors if they can think of any individual or business based within their wards who may fit this bill. If so, please encourage them to contact the authority as soon as possible for our expert advice and guidance."

"They can also visit a 'Brexit portal' and complete a self-assessment on the Business Wales website which will help them understand just how prepared they are for Brexit. Business Wales is also organising workshops designed to help businesses and traders get ready for Brexit and offers a specialist helpline."

"All of this and more can be found at business-wales.gov.wales"

Liz Bradfield
Local democracy reporter

Cor Meibion Maesteg ar Cylch delight Chipping Sodbury audience

ON April 6 Cor Meibion Maesteg ar Cylch were back on their travels supporting Chipping Sodbury Lions with their charity fundraising.

Musical director Huw Morgan produced a varied programme which included a first half of traditional Welsh hymns with their fabulous 'Amens', which really went down extremely well with the English audience, some of whom were listening to a Welsh male voice choir for the first time; "but not the last," was the comment.

During this half, baritone Kevan Lloyd sang two solo pieces from *Les Miserables* which drew a fantastic response from the audience. The second half was devoted to songs from the shows with the final quarter taken by a melody from *Les Miserables* which the choir first performed at their annual concert in March; again Kevan Lloyd sang the solo parts.

During this half, former chorister Aled Williams performed three songs and his lovely tenor voice showed how much his

voice has matured over the years. What must be said is how Huw Morgan produces not only a wonderful show, but brings wonderful comedy into the proceedings and had the audience and choir alike in stitches with some of his comments which brought great variety to the performance.

To complete and make the show such a success we had the brilliant playing of Laura Deenik, fresh from performing the previous evening with Maesteg Ladies' choir, of which she is also the accompanist, while her husband Paul is their musical director and the deputy MD of Maesteg Male voice choir.

Next year, Chipping Sodbury Lions, who have raised many tens of thousands of pounds for charity will be celebrating 50 years since their formation and Maesteg Male Voice Choir are delighted to accept their invitation to perform at their celebrations.

TH

Bridgend area PACT meetings

CAERAU PACT public meeting at Noddfa Community Centre on Monday, April, 29 at 6pm.

SARN and BRYNCOCH PACT meeting at Sarn Life Centre on Tuesday, May 7 at 7pm.

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL APRIL 18)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20-25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
11 Thur	10.59	8.8	23.23	8.6
12 Fri	11.56	8.3	-----	----
13 Sat	00.25	8.1	13.12	7.9
14 Sun	01.50	7.7	14.44	7.9
15 Mon	03.22	8.0	16.09	8.2
16 Tues	04.38	8.6	17.16	9.1
17 Wed	05.38	9.3	18.09	9.5
18 Thurs	06.28	9.9	18.55	10.0

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Changes to health board could lead to earlier hip operations

ON April 1, health services in Bridgend transferred from one health board to another in a major boundary change.

Cwm Taf University Health Board, which covers Rhondda Cynon Taf and Merthyr Tydfil, is now responsible for Bridgend, taking over from Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University (ABMU) Health Board and has changed its name to Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board.

At a full council meeting in March, the chief executive of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board, Allison Williams, told councillors what it would mean for patients and staff.

She said: "We have had some concerns raised that people will be asked to go to other hospitals, particularly for their care, but there are no plans for that to happen unless there is a particular patient choice. One of the advantages is there will be extended patient choice where they access care."

Some residents living in Bridgend county receive a lot of their healthcare in Neath Port Talbot and this will continue.

Ms Williams said: "Out of choice and convenience, residents in Bridgend access an awful lot of their services in Neath Port Talbot and we have put in arrangements with ABMU so that, as long as patients wish to receive services there, they will be able to."

In some cases, waiting lists for certain procedures are far shorter in Cwm Taf than ABMU, and patients will be able to take advantage of this. For example, in ABMU a patient might have to wait up to two years for a hip replacement but in Cwm Taf the wait is 36 weeks.

Ms Williams said: "If that means people may be offered treatment somewhere else for a shorter waiting time, that will be people's choice but that wouldn't be something that would be enforced."

However, according to Cllr Lyn Walters, there are already reports of Bridgend residents being given appointments in the Royal Glamorgan Hospital near Llantrisant.

Ms Williams said even before discussions began on the boundary change, a number of patients living in Bridgend already received treatment at the Royal Glamorgan and this was due to reasons such as GPs being aware waiting lists were lower and having discussed it with patients.

She said that there had been no deliberate attempt to try and move patients as a consequence

of these changes.

Patients who have already started a term of treatment in hospitals in Swansea or Neath Port Talbot will be able to continue that without having to change hospitals.

Ms Williams said: "We have absolutely no intention of disrupting continuity of care. A lot of the clinicians who work in Neath Port Talbot Hospital are Princess of Wales clinicians, and so for the vast majority of patients accessing care, it is a non-issue."

"However, there are some patients who have more complex healthcare needs such as specialist cardiology or maxillofacial services at Morriston, and there are some visiting consultants from Morriston who do clinics in Bridgend to see local patients – all of that is going to continue."

"If there is a new episode of care, then that's probably where choice will play a greater part."

She said: "We are not going to see any services that are currently fragile get into any sudden difficulty from April 1. It's important to recognise there are services that are not about the Princess of Wales Hospital and the same degree of focus has taken place on mental health services and the transfer of community and in-patient mental health services."

"Glanrhyd Hospital will become the responsibility of Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board although the secure services at Caswell Clinic will remain part of ABMU, because that's a regional service they provide on behalf of a wider population."

"We have worked very closely with ABMU and we are very clear that where things can't be absolutely tied off by April 1 we have a transition arrangement to ensure there is a safe transition of services."

Ms Williams said while there were no plans for changes to services at the moment, she was unable to give any guarantees there wouldn't be changes in the future.

She said: "What I can commit to is that if there are good reasons why services need to change at any point in the future then we will engage fully with the community, undertake a public consultation if appropriate and necessary and take into consideration the challenges arising from those changes."

Ms Williams said there would be no job losses as a result of the boundary change.

In November, ABMU undertook a public consultation on

plans to permanently close the day service at Maesteg Hospital and transfer it to the Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend.

However, the decision was postponed with Cwm Taf taking over responsibility for health services in the county.

Maesteg West county councillor Ross Thomas asked whether there would be a "genuine open dialogue" on the issue, and Ms Williams confirmed there is an absolute commitment to work openly, transparently and in partnership with the community.

She said: "It's actually less about the day hospital per se and more about what is the best shape of community services to serve the public of which the day hospital may, or may not, be a part."

At the council meeting on March 20, Cllr Lyn Walters raised concerns over the funding of services in the new organisation. She said: "We are all fully aware that over the last few years, services in Bridgend have been run down and funding per capita has been used to prop up ABMU. The black hole in ABMU needs to be resolved outside the new authority, otherwise Cwm Taf is going to get dragged in as well to fund that black hole."

Ms Williams said the funding which has transferred across to the new organisation is based on Bridgend's population rather than what had been spent in the past.

She said: "There are financial challenges everywhere – part of our work with ABMU is to identify those areas where there has perhaps been under investment and we will be looking to try and address that. Probably one thing we did underestimate was how much work this was going to involve, because we haven't done an organisational change like this before."

"What we usually do in the NHS is split organisations up or join them together, we've never actually taken part of one organisation, disaggregated it and then joined it with another organisation."

On April 1, ABMU changed its name to Swansea Bay University Health Board and it now covers Swansea and Neath Port Talbot. The change in boundary was an administrative change and would not affect the way patient care is delivered; there would be no reduction or loss of services, and patients would continue to travel to the same place as they do now to receive their care.

Liz Bradfield,
Local Democracy Reporter



Mayra Hobrok, Luke Harry and April Davies receive their prizes from the Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, Morfudd Meredith and Sir Norman Lloyd-Edwards, the president of the South Wales branch of the ESU.

Success for local schools in the ESU 'Performing Shakespeare' competition

THE Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama was the venue for the Wales final of this year's English Speaking Union's 'Performing Shakespeare' competition, and what an afternoon we had!

The standards achieved by our young students (years 7-9) are always high but this year

they were especially so and our judges had a difficult time arriving at their decisions. However, ultimately they chose April Davies and Luke Harry from Brynteg School in Bridgend, whose lively interpretation of Kate and Petruchio from The Taming of the Shrew proved conclusively that the Bard's power to make audiences laugh remains as strong as ever.

Mayra Hobrok from Westbourne

School in Penarth moved us with her sensitive delivery of Juliet's speech before she takes the Friar's potion and, as our youngest participant, this was particularly impressive.

All three competitors will go on in June to compete at Dartmouth House, The ESU's London headquarters in the national final and we wish them all success.

JP

LOCAL VALE LAW FIRM WINS TOP UK AWARD 'SUCCESS STARTS WITH A GREAT TEAM'



Catherine Hartland & Alexandra Jenkins

Local Barry Law firm attended the prestigious Modern Law Awards in Manchester on Thursday 31 January 2019 and were the only law firm from Wales to reach the finals, the only law firm to be finalists in more than 2 awards, and the only law firm to come away with three awards.

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Local MP argues for reducing voting age

CHRIS Elmore wants the UK Government to follow the example of the Welsh Government in considering cutting the voting age to 16.

The Ogmere MP said in a Westminster Hall debate that the Welsh Government are consulting on extending the franchise to 16-year-olds in local government elections and the next National Assembly for Wales election. He said: "That is being done collectively across all parties in the Assembly."

"It is interesting to see the different approach taken by Government ministers here compared with the cross-party approach taken in the Assembly." Mr Elmore suggested there is a need for a franchise across the whole UK that goes right across the age range, starting at 16.

He told MPs: "Paying National Insurance is quite significant, and people should have a say from the time at which they are required to pay tax."

M PROSSER

Local entrepreneurs attend enjoy time at 'pop up business school'

OVER 80 upcoming local entrepreneurs have gained the knowledge and tools needed to start their own business after attending a recent week-long course with the PopUp Business School.

The PopUp Business School, which took place at Halo's Bridgend Life Centre, encouraged participants to take the first step in setting up their own enterprise and was supported by BCBC's 'Employability Bridgend' team, which is funded by the European Social Fund and Welsh Government.

Kaylea Robyn Dowling attended and said: "I attended this free event with low expectations and was pleasantly surprised. The content and delivery was exceptional and the information shared was pure gold."

"I've been in business for eight months now and have learned so much that I wish I knew when I first started out. I would encourage anybody who gets the opportunity to attend one of these events to



jump at it. You will not be disappointed."

Cllr Hywel Williams, deputy leader of BCBC, said: "The PopUp Business School was a huge success in Bridgend county borough once again."

"We will continue to work with local entrepreneurs to support them in bringing their ideas to life."

To find out more about how BCBC's Employability Team can help you to develop your business idea, contact them on 01656 815317 or email employability@bridgend.gov.uk.

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Cosmology Corner with Norman Lloyd - 4001 and counting...

LAST month, on March 12, astronomers celebrated the milestone discovery of two new exoplanets (planets which orbit distant stars), which took the tally of known exoplanets through the 4,000 mark to 4,001.

The first three exoplanets were discovered in 1990 from the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico. As they were actually orbiting a pulsar, the remnant of a massive star, their discovery did not give rise to a great deal of excitement at the time.

Just five years later in 1995, however, scientists detected a planet orbiting 51 Pegasi, a main sequence star, one which is in the same stage of its evolution as our Sun.

Since then, thousands more have been discovered including some planets in multiple star systems. Inhabitants of such worlds would see not one but two, or even three suns in their skies.

The visionary short story 'Nightfall' by the famed science fiction author Isaac Asimov describes the effect on inhabitants of the planet Lagash on those occasions when all six of its suns happen to have set at the same time and the starry night sky is seen for the very first time in 2,000 years.

At the present time, only 49 of the 4,000 known exoplanets are potentially habitable. These planets have stable orbits around their stars in the so-called Goldilocks Zone - a distance from their star which is neither too close nor too far, allowing liquid water to be sustained on the planet's surface.

We know that here on Earth, life can always be found in water environments right through the temperature range from freezing to boiling point, but can life exist on a planet without liquid water on its surface? No-one knows - yet.

Some time ago I wrote about NASA's new Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) which is currently analysing up to 85 per cent of the sky. That is more than 300 times the area of the sky zone observed by the Kepler Space Telescope which

has detected the lion's share of exoplanets so far, more than 2,700 in fact. So we can expect many new ones to be detected soon.

Astronomers theorise that our Milky Way galaxy might contain billions of exoplanets orbiting its 200 billion stars. We now know that even our closest stellar neighbours, Proxima Centauri and Barnard's Star, at distances of four and six light years respectively, are both orbited by planets.

With such a large number then, it does not require a great reach of the imagination to speculate that alien life may have developed on some of them - perhaps even intelligent life.

Given the age of the universe, civilisations may well have evolved which are millions of years in advance of our own.

Ever since the advent of radio in the early 1900s, scientific investigations have been undertaken in the search for evidence of transmissions from civilisations on other planets.

More recently, from the 1980s, focused international efforts have been ongoing in the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI). So, if there are indeed advanced civilisations out there, why haven't we heard from them?

That question was first posed in 1950 by the Italian physicist Enrico Fermi and it is now known as Fermi's Paradox, or The Great Silence. Last month on March 18, a scientific workshop was held at the Paris Science Museum at which researchers from diverse scientific fields were brought together to try to help understand this Great Silence.

One conjecture from the workshop was that extraterrestrials are imposing a galactic quarantine on us because they consider that it would be culturally disruptive for us to learn about them.

Another was that, whereas we focus on looking for radio or light signals, it is likely that civilisations which are thousands or millions of years ahead of us will have technologies which are vastly more advanced than ours. Your guess is as good as theirs.

Cowbridge Chorale's annual Easter concert
COWBRIDGE Choral Society is pleased to announce its annual Easter concert taking place at 7pm on Saturday, April 13 in Bethel Baptist Church, Pontyclun.

We will once again be joined by Pontypridd Choral Society and we will be performing the Requiem by Brahms in memory of Paul Weston.



Minister and AM visit the samosa specialists

SAMOSACO, based in Pontyclun, a leading producer of a range of vegetarian, vegan and gluten free Indian products, recently welcomed the Ogmore AM Huw Irranca-Davies and the Welsh Government Environment and Rural Affairs Minister, Lesley Griffiths.

Starting out as a small family-run business in Toronto before moving to Wales, it is the only purpose-built samosa factory in Wales. Now providing a range of products to some of the biggest food retailers in the UK, as well as many of the smaller, local retailers, the company have displayed their success at the BBC Good Food Show, Euro Disney, Belfast and many other festivals.

The company was also shortlisted as one of 10 leading Welsh food innovation companies to attend the London-based annual 'Food Matters Live' event, dedicated to food, health

and nutrition.

Lesley Griffiths, and Huw Irranca-Davies, were invited to Pontyclun to sample some of the spicy delights while learning how the company have developed into one of the UK's leading producers of Indian snacks. Listed as 'food with history, tradition and soul', the offerings did not disappoint with both the Minister and Ogmore AM praising the food and success of the company.

Of the visit, Mr Irranca-Davies said: "A wonderful visit to a fantastic food company in Pontyclun who are flying the flag for Wales in promoting their very tasty products here and all around the world."

"With continued Welsh Government support, a successful Ogmore small business is helping towards Wales truly becoming a food innovation nation. Our first-class Ogmore food producers really do showcase the very best of Wales."

Parkinson's cafe

THE next Parkinson's Drop In Cafe takes place on Wednesday, April 17 from 1.30pm-3.30pm in Llantonian Hall, Llantwit Major.

All are welcome to come along and have a chat and a cuppa. For further information, call Martin Simmonds on 01446 796310.

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Cardiff City stars pay a flying visit to Evanstown Primary School



BLUEBIRDS heroes **Sean Morrison** and **Joe Ralls** gave pupils at **Abercerdin Primary School, Evanstown**, a helping hand with their footballing skills, thanks to **Cardiff City FC Community Foundation**, the official **Bluebirds** charity.

The event was organised to mark 10 years of the foundation, during which time it has invested over £10 million in sport and education programmes across south Wales.

Premier League Primary Stars (PLPS) uses the appeal of the Premier League and Cardiff City FC to inspire children across south Wales to learn, be active and

develop important life skills. Foundation staff work with teachers to deliver fun, educational sessions to improve children's reading and writing skills.

Pupils at Abercerdin Primary School were lucky enough to have a surprise visit from Bluebirds' captain Sean Morrison and midfielder Joe Ralls recently. The pair took football coaching sessions with children from years 5 and 6.

Suzanne Fletcher, a teacher at Abercerdin Primary, said: "The school really appreciates the support that the foundation gives us, and moments like these act as a real motivator for the children."

"For two Premier League footballers to walk into their PE sessions is something

that they would have never have dreamed of."

To marks its 10th anniversary, the foundation is launching a fundraising appeal to help ensure it can continue to support children.

Gavin Hawkey, director of Cardiff City FC Community Foundation, said: "Our club has been changing lives for 10 years, and with the fans' help we can continue to change even more lives."

Fans can donate by going to www.cardiffcityfcfoundation.org.uk/10years

Sean Morrison said: "It's always great to come out to schools with the Foundation and interact with the kids.

Every member of the squad wants to help the community."

'We must practice diversity', says MP

OGMORE MP Chris Elmore has called on the Houses of Parliament to create more employment opportunities for people from across all parts of the UK.

Addressing Tom Brake MP, who represents the House of Commons Commission, Mr Elmore called for improvements to the "regional and nation diversity" of people working in Westminster to better represent the country as a whole.

He also asked for more to be done to encourage women to take up senior roles

within the Parliamentary estate.

Mr Elmore said: "It's essential that as MPs, we don't just preach diversity but we actually practice it in everything we do. We've made great progress in recent decades to improve diversity, but it's vital that we redouble our efforts to make our democracy – and the hardworking staff who facilitate our democratic processes – more representative of the UK population."

"Young people from my constituency should be able to benefit from apprenticeships and other job opportunities at the Houses of Parliament, just as much as people from London

and the south east do."

Mr Brake responded positively to Mr Elmore's question by highlighting the work of the 'Amazing Apprenticeships' organisation, which has begun working with the Parliamentary authorities with schools and colleges across the UK to encourage such changes.

Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales)

Order 2012 Notice Under Article 10 Application for Planning Permission for Proposed Development at:
Land To The Rear of 25 Heol Ty Draw, North Cornelly, Bridgend County Borough, CF33 4AL.

Take notice that application is being made by:
Mrs Myra Cooper.

For planning permission to:
Erect a 1 Bed annexe accessed utilising the existing rear access lane. Any owner of the land or tenant who wishes to make representations about this application should write to Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB within 21 days of the date of this notice.

Signatory:
Mr Stuart Bentley BDML
Date: 04-04-2019

The Vale of Glamorgan National Trust

ON Thursday, April 17 The Vale of Glamorgan National Trust will hold their Annual General Meeting in The Duke of Wellington Hotel, Cowbridge at 7pm.

This will be followed at 7.30pm by a lecture on bees given by Professor Robert Pickard. On the subject of bees Professor Pickard is an international authority.

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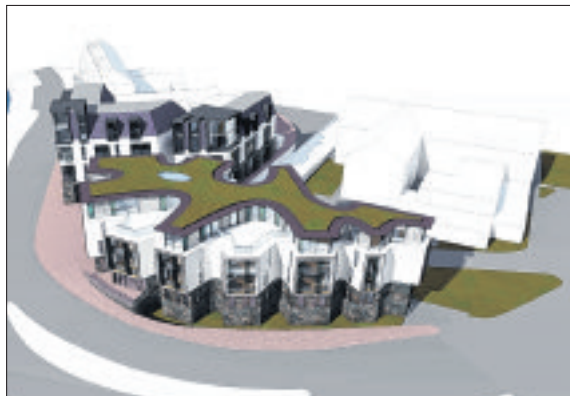
Porthcawl... love it, don't trash it!



Dyluniwyd gan **Lilia**, Ysgol Gynradd Porthcawl

Designed by **Lilia**, Porthcawl Primary School

Porthcawl's seafront to be given new look?



An artist's impression of one possible design, with the Pier Hotel site top left, and the Dunraven Court site apartments sweeping around the bend that leads to Porthcawl Harbour.



ABOVE: The Pier Hotel as it is today.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The existing space between the hotel and the 'hole in the ground' would be re-modelled to be a sheltered space where people could relax and take in the view over a drink. There would be a walkway created so that people could walk through into the Square behind the Pier Hotel.

On the old Dunraven Court site, apartments and a ground floor bar/restaurant would be created at the same level as the Pier Hotel building, with a basement car park underneath.

Mr Morgan said that they were still looking at different designs, but one was aimed at creating flats that each had different views, using plenty of glass to maximise that view.

Mr Rock told the councillors that he had already been approached by a prominent south Wales restaurant that was looking for a suitable site in Porthcawl, and that a good sea view was part of their brief.

Councillors' reactions ranged from some expressions that it was 'too modern' and concerns over whether

people would buy the apartments to live in all year round – or as second homes.

There is, of course, one aspect of the plan that is subject to negotiation. Mr Rock owns the Pier Hotel site, but the old Dunraven Court site was bought by the now-defunct Welsh Development Agency (WDA) and has now passed into the hands of the Welsh Government.

Mr Rock said that no talks had been held yet with the Welsh Government.

At the end of the meeting, Cllr Mike Clarke thanked Mr Rock for taking the trouble to brief the town council, saying that he had no obligation to do so, and that councillors had appreciated the chance to comment on the direction of the project.

Summer litter campaign is boosted by youngsters' posters



The judges loved Niamh's design which featured the dreaded litter bug. Niamh's poster was the winning design from St Clare's School.



Nottage Primary School pupils delivered a fantastic presentation to report their litter findings in Porthcawl.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lilia's design will have pride of place along the seafront as a reminder of the harmful effects of litter on the world's sea life. Designs by other children will be displayed on streets around their schools.

Over the past month, pupils from the five schools have been learning about the negative impact of litter on their local environment by carrying out litter picks on nearby streets and beaches.

The children presented their findings at a special event held in the Hi-Tide. All of the children reported being particularly shocked at how much plastic they discovered and are interested to see what different types of littering trends they'll discover when they carry out more litter picks during the tourist season.

Cllr Richard Young, BCBC's cabinet member for communities, said: "I am extremely impressed by the children's passion and determination to clean up their town. The children have told us how much they hate to see rubbish, how sad it makes them to think of sea creatures being damaged by litter, and how no-one ever wants to step in dog poo."

Cllr Hywel Williams, the Deputy Leader of BCBC, said: "Here in Bridgend County Borough we spend around £1.5m on picking up litter each year. Surely local taxpayers would rather help prevent litter in the first place, and spend money on other essential services instead?"

"I am a firm believer that education is the best way to combat littering, so where better to start than in schools."

The initiative has also been endorsed by Porthcawl Town Mayor, Cllr Norah Clarke, who said: "I was amazed to discover quite how much plastic the children found during their litter picks. Interestingly, the children didn't find

many carrier bags, which is a sign of the impact being made by the introduction of a carrier bag charge, but they did find lots of single use plastics such as bottles and packaging. As a seaside town, we have a duty to look after not just our streets but our coastline too, so please be responsible with your rubbish."

Anne Davidson, SeaQuest manager, said: "We've been really proud of how all the local schools have got behind the 'Porthcawl... Love It, Don't Trash It' project. The students worked really hard on the

litter picks, and clearly put a lot of thought and effort into their posters. Their final presentations were outstanding and we hope that all the students involved carry on with their infectious enthusiasm to get the rest of their schoolfriends equally motivated to keep Porthcawl tidy!"

Each of the schools taking part in the campaign will also receive a novelty bin for their school yard, while Porthcawl Primary School won their own litter picking set.



Porthcawl Primary School pupil Lilia was the overall winner of BCBC's 'Porthcawl. Love It, Don't Trash It' poster competition.

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Coffee morning in Llantwit

The Mayor of Llantwit Major is holding a coffee morning on April 13 in the Llantian Hall between 10am and 12pm.

The Ukelastic Band will play and the results of the silent auction will be announced around 11.30am. Just a reminder that bids can be made for the many unique prizes in the auction by downloading a form from the Town Council website and submitting it via e-mail to llantwitmajortc@outlook.com, or by collecting and handing in a hard copy of the form at the Llantwit Major Town Council office at the Town Hall.

Alternatively, bids can be made direct to the Mayor by e-mail on llantwitmajortc@outlook.com. The closing date for online bids will be 4pm on Thursday, April 11 and for hard copy bids 11am at the coffee morning.



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Barry Indoor Car Boot sale

WANT to clear out your clutter and make some extra money?

Book a table at the Barry Indoor Car Boot Sale on Saturday, April 27 at the St Francis Millennium Centre on Park Road in Barry.

There's no need to get up early or risk being rained on, just have a clear out, book a table and bring along your unwanted items to the hall.

Tea and coffee available on the day with donations going to Barry Dock RNLI. Sellers can arrive from 8.30am and it is free entry for buyers; call in between 9.30am-11.30am.

Tables are £10 and must be booked and paid for in advance. For further information, email hannah@hicommunications.co.uk, text 07415657661 or search Barry Indoor Car Boot Sale.

Twinning association prepares to welcome guests

PORHCRAWL Town Twinning Association's friends from France will be arriving this July for their 20th anniversary visit.

They will be staying with local families and possible venues for social

events include The Grand Pavilion, The Royal Porthcawl Golf Club, the back of a lorry at the Carnival, a tour of the Senedd and the Norwegian Church in Cardiff.

Anyone interested in joining in the fun should call Ann on 01656 788027.

PW

Didn't Santa do well for two great charities!



Santa with the cheques.

THE resident Santa at Pyle Garden Village, known as the 'Steelworks Santa' has generously donated all the proceeds of his pay from working in Santa's Grotto during Christmas to two charities close to his heart.

Allan Evans, who was given support from his employers Tata Steel, worked over the festive period at Pyle Garden Centre (PGC) and quickly earned a name for himself locally as the 'Real Santa' by entertaining children and their families in the Grotto and afternoon teas with Father Christmas and his elves.

Santa, Elsie the Elf and Candy Cane invited Gwyneth Poacher MBE and her volunteers from the Sandville Self-Help Centre, along with representatives from the British Heart Foundation to receive cheques totalling £3,184 at the Olive Tree Restaurant, Pyle Garden Village.

Allan explained to guests how important Sandville had been in providing support to his parents before they passed away, and he also wanted to honour the British Heart Foundation after a work colleague, Alex Kalinik, aged 36, died just one week before his wedding. He had a pulmonary embolism which was missed by doctors.

Allan Evans grew a beard for his important role and ordered his red velvet outfit with Lorraine Stone, the Cornelly-based designer at Truly Scrumptious, and plans to introduce Mrs Claus, his wife Sharon, to the Santa Experience in the Christmas 2019 at Pyle Garden Centre.



Allan Evans with Katy, the fiancée of the late Alex Kalinik.



Allan Evans with Gary Banks and Gwyneth Poacher from The Sandville.



All the guests celebrating Santa's gift to the charities.



Santa, Elsie, Candy Cane, Cllr Huw David, Leader of BCBC and Cllr Jane Gebbie of Pyle.



Jayne James of PGC with guests.



COMMUNITY NEWS
TREOES, LLANGAN
& ST MARY HILL
News and views from
Nancy Davidge, Tynnewydd, Llangan.
01656 860303.

News from Llangan School

ALL this week (April 8-12), children at Llangan School have been taking part in a health and wellbeing week.

Pupils have been learning how to keep minds and bodies healthy with various health professionals visiting to teach Tai Chi and first aid, and to give advice on healthy eating and keeping fit.

Saron Chapel vestry

AT long last, the vestry has been granted the cash needed for the modernisation of the building. If everything goes as planned, this will prove to be a real asset to the village of Treoes.

St Mary Hill Church

THE Easter Day service will be held on Sunday, April 21 at 7.30am, with the officiating cleric Rev David Boulton. Everyone will be assured of a warm welcome.

'Many thanks to a public-spirited visitor'

WHILE walking my dog towards Cwm Bach on March 30, I saw a pile of a dozen black bags and some tyres placed at the sign of the footpath leading down the valley to the cliff.

I met a man coming back from the cliff edge carrying some large, cumbersome pieces of plastic towards the bags. He had been cleaning the beach.

There was more, and he planned on coming back next day. He had climbed the rickety escape ladder, carrying bags and pieces of rigid plastic and two heavy old vehicle tyres. He then planned to carry these back to his car, which was a considerable distance again, over a mile each time.

Thank you to this generous spirited

person, who had come down from Gloucester to visit his girlfriend in Bridgend, and thanks to the farm who allowed us to access the piles via their property.

I took six bags to the amenity site and – you guessed it – I had to empty each bag individually to prove they just contained plastic.

While I was emptying the very last bag, a woman dumped perfectly good plastic toddler toys, large plastic storage boxes (charity shops, and women's refuges welcome such donations) into the general waste.

She could have saved herself the climb; there is a ground level bin for large rigid plastic, which she had parked right next to.

Mrs C Jones, Broughton.

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Cows On Tour launches a 'Grow Your Own' competition



Schools will be decorating their wooden cow planters for the competition.

SCHOOLS and local businesses across south Wales are being encouraged to join forces as part of a competition aimed at igniting children's interest in food and farming.

A 'Wooden Cow - Grow Your Own' competition has been created by the Cows on Tour team, whose core members include local farmers Abi Reader, Chris Hanks and Glamorgan Young Farmers' Club welfare officer, Rebecca Macgregor, as part of a wider drive to help children understand where their food comes from.

The contest will involve local businesses or schools paying £50 to sponsor a model wooden cow that doubles up as a planter, to decorate and grow plants in. Schools are encouraged to send in photo collages of their decorated cow, along with 200 words

on their idea.

The winners will be announced at the Royal Welsh Smallholding and Countryside Festival at the Royal Welsh Showground in Llanellwedd on May 18-19, where all collages will be displayed.

The class that wins the competition will get one child ticket per class to attend the Royal Welsh Show, with two further adult tickets for the teacher and teaching assistant of the winning class.

Funds raised through the initiative will support rural farming charities, the DPJ Foundation and RABI.

The fun model cows were created using wood donated by Premier Forest Products and created by members of the South Wales Woodwork Club, who crafted the wooden farm animals free to support the Cows on Tour team.

Wenvoe dairy farmer Abi Reader said:

"We are hoping that these wooden cow planters are a fun way to ignite children's interest in farming and where their food comes from. The Cows on Tour team are looking forward to seeing colourful and imaginative decorated cows entered into the 'Wooden Cow - Grow Your Own' competition from schools across Wales. We are very grateful to Premier Forest Products and South Wales Woodwork Club for their support in making this fun idea a reality, as well as supporting good causes in the process."

Those wishing to get involved with the 'Wooden Cow - Grow Your Own' initiative should contact the Cows on Tour team on their Facebook page or email CowonTourfarmers@gmail.com.

DJ

Ramblers step out for a birthday walk on the Gower

PENARTH and District Ramblers celebrated their 26th birthday in style by travelling to the Gower peninsula, initially through thick fog, which dispersed to leave glorious warm sunshine all day.

From Parc le Breos, the group of 19, led by Joy, entered Parkmill and followed the Pennard Pill River through its beautiful valley overlooked by the remains of Pennard Castle.

Clambering up through the dunes, the Wales Coast Path led them above Little Tor Bay, then down through woodland and into Nicholaston Burrows for celebratory goodies baked by Josie.

Making their way across the Nicholaston Pill River via a raised footbridge, the wide open sand on Oxwich Bay beckoned them for the journey to Oxwich village, where they turned inland.

A descent via a sunken path led them by road onto Penrice Estate land with its ruined castle and fine mansion house overlooking splendid parkland, before a climb to the A4118 for the journey to the quiet hamlet of Perriswood.

The last climb led onto the ridge-way of Cefn Bryn with its ponies and trilling skylarks, then downhill to Penmaen to continue through Northill Woods for the short trek past the pretty ford in Parkmill back to the start.

For her first walk as a leader for the group, Alison and her nine companions set off from St Brides Major uphill and across Old Castle Down in lovely sunshine with a cool breeze, before

descending into Cwm Alun.

Stepping stones at Pont y Brown led them across the river for morning break after which they journeyed on by road and through fields, dropping downhill through Corntown where Tingle Lane brought them to the historic Ewenny Priory.

Fortunately for the group, the gardens, house and deer park were open to the public and after a quick look around, they moved on to visit the Priory Church dedicated to St Michael before stopping for lunch.

Heading along Corntown Road past the old Baptismal Pool adorned with marsh marigold, they headed uphill on Heol y Cawl and into cropped fields at Corntown Farm and gazing northwards, the gloomy dark clouds were dumping rain on the woodlands and hills of the Ogmore and Garw valleys.

By track and field, they reached the railway line and descended through a field to the clapper bridge over the clear River Alun, glinting in the sunlight.

Some road walking led to Coed y Bwl, renowned for its small wild daffodils in season, then up a track to cropped fields at the rear of Blackhall to join the road that would lead them back down into St Brides.

For up to date information, log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com or follow on Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

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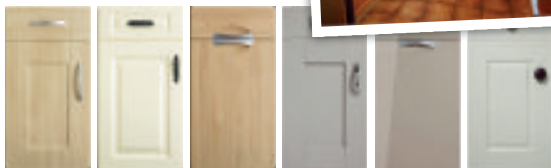
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Young and old take part in the 'OlympAge Games'

THE first ever inter-generational mini-OlympAge Games event was held at Halo's Ogmere Valley Life Centre recently.

School pupils and older people from Ogmere Valley teamed up to compete at a range of Olympic-themed activities, such as chain relay, bounce ball, target throw and new age kurling.

The fun-filled activities, which took place in teams of eight, represented countries that compete in the real Olympics. All the games involve simple activities aimed to improve mobility, fitness and social interaction.

The Mayor of Bridgend County Borough, Cllr John McCarthy who attended the games, said: "It's great to see events like this in our communities. It's a way of encouraging participants to stay active and gives them the chance to socialise with people of all ages."

"We are all aware that as an ageing population, it is important that we keep active and stay as healthy as we can. There are also mental benefits of being active, which can prevent people from becoming isolated or even ill and in need of hospital care."

"It has also been



great to see the children from the local primary school joining in with the activities, having fun and enjoying the team challenge!"

Jack, a pupil from Ogmere Vale Primary School said: "I really enjoyed the games this morning. My favourite game was new age kurling - I hit the 100 target!"

Mary, aged 94 said: "We've had a really enjoyable morning with the children. They have been very polite and well-behaved and have also helped out with the games. There's been a great team spirit and I've enjoyed seeing everyone laughing and having fun."

Bridgend MP calls for action on far-right internet threat in the UK

MADELEINE Moon is pressing the Government to prevent far-right groups from spreading "fear and intimidation" through the internet.

The Bridgend MP spoke during a Commons debate on ways of preventing

inappropriate use of social media.

She said it had been reported that 43 per cent of the terrorist threat in the UK currently comes from far-right groups who find each other on the internet and meet in enclosed chat rooms in encrypted space.

Mrs Moon said: "They then come on to the internet to spread fear and intimidation among people who are tackling and pushing back against their activities."

She asked Media Secretary Jeremy Wright to talk to the Security Minister to ensure that new legislation being considered by the Government is able to deal with the threat from the far right.

Mr Wright said he and the Security Minister had discussed the Government's proposals and will do so again in view of Mrs Moon's specific comments.

Report by Michael Prosser

'Better enforcement on fouling, parking and littering needed'

PEOPLE in Bridgend are getting away with fly-tipping and parking infringements despite being caught, a councillor who is calling for better enforcement has said.

During the past year, 76 fines were issued for fly-tipping in the county but almost two thirds were waived with just 19 being paid.

While a total of 8,531 fines were issued for parking infringements, 1,355 of those were never paid because they were waived.

When it comes to putting out the rubbish, there were 11 fines issued for not complying with regulations but almost half have been waived, with five still pending and just one fine actually paid.

There were no fines for dog fouling or littering.

Speaking at a Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) meeting in March, Cllr Matthew Voisey said he was shocked at some of the figures.

The Oldcastle ward councillor said: "The number of tickets which are waived almost gives the public impunity to go around littering, allowing their dogs to foul and to not comply with waste disposal regulations."

"It is really not acceptable. What are officers and the cabinet going to do about the lack of enforcement on littering and dog fouling, and other anti-social behaviour around parking and fly-tipping?"

Deputy leader Hywel Williams said: "We recognise the issue of dog fouling and littering and we are happy to announce that from the end of April, we will have an enforcement team in place and they will be out on the ground and issuing fixed-penalty notices."

"It is not the council's fault that people are allowing their dogs to foul in public places, but it is something we are taking action on."

Officers said a contract for litter and dog fouling enforcement had been awarded to an external company.

Zak Shell, head of neighbourhood services, said: "This time next year we hope to see some substantial figures in the number of fines being issued for both littering and dog fouling."

"Potentially, the enforcement powers will increase to not just taking action over dog fouling and littering but issues like not carrying dog poo bags when walking your dog, which demonstrates you

have no intent to pick up the mess. "Steps are being taken to improve the situation and they are being taken on a no-cost basis, in that the award of contract is not one that is expected to be a cost to the authority - it is expected to be one that generates enough income to pay for itself."

Mr Shell told councillors that waived penalties for parking infringements were dealt with by a processing department working on behalf of a number of local authorities in Wales.

He said: "They will consider various categories and arguments of relevant mitigation that result in penalties being waived."

"It could be that a resident who has parked on double yellow lines is able to park there but has forgotten to display their blue badge, or somebody has parked in a loading bay but is able to show evidence they are connected with a property nearby."

"With fly-tipping, we don't just let people off the hook lightly; we take everything on a case-by-case basis."

"Ultimately we're interested in a behaviour change, not punishment."

Liz Bradfield, Local democracy reporter

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Textile exhibition in Penarth

AN exhibition by Haf Weighton and Carol Bartlett, two Welsh textile artists, will run from April 12 to May 30, Monday to Sunday from 9am-5pm at the Penarth Pier Pavilion.

The exhibition is entitled 'Adre', which is Welsh for 'Home'.

Haf and Carol work with thread, focussing on the landscape of Penarth, their home town, and the areas of Barry and Cardiff.

Haf's recent work has explored Cardiff's Victorian arcades and the architectural link with Penarth. She uses paint and stitch in her work and has exhibited widely, including the Saatchi Gallery and locally through the

Arts Council of Wales.

Carol is the co-owner of fabric shop, Sew Lovely. Inspired by an old photograph, she created a shop front in stitch which developed into a series of stitched pictures based on Victorian and Edwardian photographs and sketches of Penarth. Carol uses collaged fabric with free-motion and hand embroidery and recently exhibited at the London Contemporary Crafts Fair.

There will also be textile art work created by local children on the theme of 'Identity' at the Pier along the upper gallery.

For further information on the exhibition, call Penarth Pier Pavilion on 02920 712100.



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Share The Load project to improve mental health in rural community

"ONE in four people will suffer a mental health issue in their lifetime, with agriculture carrying one of the highest rates of suicide."

These were the sobering statistics from Emma Picton-Jones, founder of The DPJ Foundation, when she spoke to NFU Cymru staff.

The NFU Cymru team listened avidly as Emma, who recently delivered a full day's mental health training to the team, gave an emotional account of the reason she set up the charity in July 2016 and explained all the great work the foundation had achieved in recent years.

The DPJ Foundation aims to support people in rural communities affected by mental health issues, especially men in the agricultural sector, and aims to break down the stigma that surrounds mental health.

NFU Cymru Head of Operations, Kevin Owen, said: "Farming can be an isolated profession, it's hugely traditional and often carries a resistance



towards seeking help.

Farmers are at the mercy of the elements and many factors are out of their control. All these issues combined can contribute to depression and anxiety, and if not dealt with, can slowly spiral out of control.

"With this in mind, we organised mental health awareness training as we believe now more than ever we must all be talking about mental health and the many ways that people can seek help – this was the first in a series of training sessions to be

rolled out across our network in Wales."

NFU Cymru's message to all is to look out for your family, friends and neighbours and if you notice a change in their personality or appearance, talk to them. Starting up a conversation and listening to their problems is the best way to understand their issues and further assess what support they

may wish to access. Farming is one big community – we must all take responsibility in looking out for those in need.

The DPJ Foundation has a campaign, #ShareTheLoad, which aims to raise awareness of their talking therapies and counselling service. This ties in to NFU Mutual's #MindYourHead

campaign, which aims to raise awareness of mental health issues within the farming community and to get people talking.

If you, or someone you know, is suffering with poor mental health, call The DPJ Foundation on 0800 5874262 or text 07860 048799 for confidential advice.

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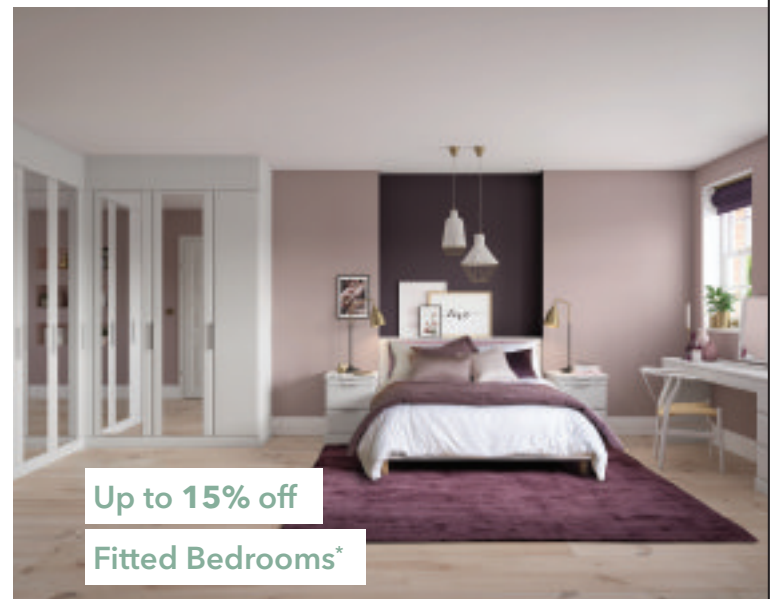
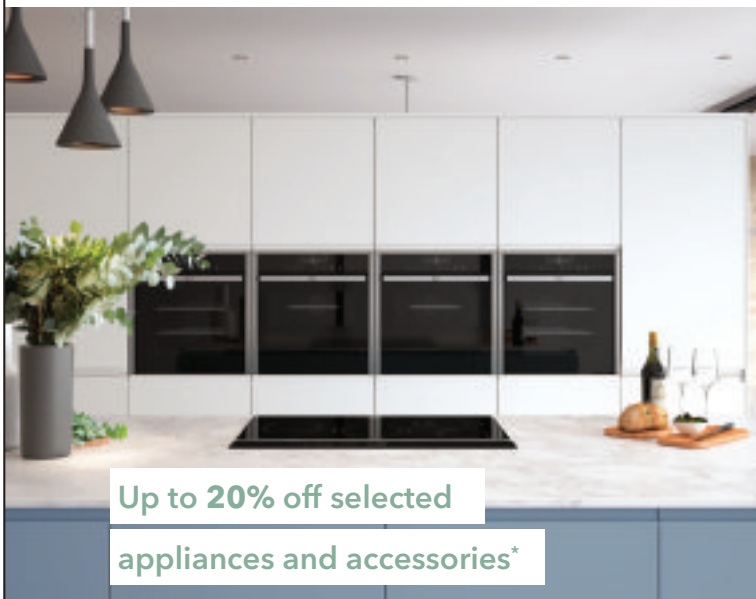
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'Parking charges and school funding on the agenda'

FIRSTLY, I want to congratulate everyone at Barry Town United for qualifying for the Europa League and express how proud we all are of their achievements this season. Gavin Chesterfield and his team have done an excellent job and I wish them every success going forward.

On the key issues impacting the Vale, last week the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee discussed the proposal to introduce parking charges. I sent comments to the committee, strongly setting out my opposition to charges. We have learned that the charges would do little in terms of bringing in revenue for the local authority but would present a major challenge to local traders.

Businesses in Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Barry, particularly on Barry Island, have worked hard with the local authority to build a destination for visitors, which attracts people and creates jobs. Barry Island recently featured in the Department for International Trade's prospectus for investment opportunities at a global summit. We need to continue to embrace opportunities and resist throwing up barriers to investment and progress.

I'm pleased that councillors at the scrutiny meeting listened to



Welsh Secretary
ALUN CAIRNS
reports to
GEM readers

our concerns and recommended changes to the proposals. However, readers should note that this is only one step in the process and the fight against parking charges isn't over yet.

Another matter causing deep concerns to teachers, parents and governors as we enter the new financial year is the underfunding of local schools and the consequences this has on school budgets.

I have serious concerns about the current state of school funding in the Vale by the Welsh Government, which puts the Vale at the bottom of the funding table. That's why I have written to Jane Hutt AM to ask that she works with me and others on a cross-party approach to tackle this issue.

The Welsh Government's funding formula works against the Vale, compared with other local authorities in Wales. The data sets that are being used are 20 years old, again prejudicing against the Vale.

I have tried once

before to organise a cross-party campaign to the Welsh Government seeking a change.

Unfortunately, the response from other political parties at that time was disappointing, to say the least, and the Welsh Government's reply was that to change the formula, all 22 local authorities would have to agree. Clearly, this is highly unlikely to happen when some would become worse off – even if more equitable.

The Welsh Government also said that they were merely passing on Westminster cuts to schools. This is wholly wrong. Within the first six months of becoming the Secretary of State for Wales, I negotiated a new funding formula with the Treasury and with the Welsh Government. Wales now receives £120 for every £100 spent in England. Mark Drakeford, the then Finance Minister agreed at the time that it was a fair settlement.

In the meantime, this remains an issue and presents a significant challenge to local schools. I will again try to organise a cross party campaign to seek changes and I am hopeful that we can achieve a positive outcome for pupils in the Vale.

Finally, at the end of this month, I'm running my eighth London Marathon to raise funds for Dementia Revolution and Guide Dogs Cymru. Although recent events have meant that I haven't quite managed to keep training on track, the thought of supporting these charities and the incredible work that they do will no doubt get me over the line.

I've been working with both of these incredibly important charities recently and I'm really looking forward to playing a role supporting them.

Please support these excellent causes here: www.virginmoneygiving.com/aluncairns

Shazam is assured, but doesn't quite have the magic touch...

THE DCEU is starting to lighten up.

While *Wonder Woman* was a step into a brighter future, critically and commercially, *Aquaman*'s sense of fun and scale (and a box office take of over \$1 billion) means that the universe seems to be embracing brevity over brutality.

The latest DC film is *Shazam*, which tells the story of Billy Batson (Asher Angel), a foster child who moves into a group foster home and immediately draws the attentions of Freddie Freeman (Jack Dylan Grazer).

When Billy is magically transported from a train carriage to the sanctum of The Wizard (Djimon Hounsou), he is bequeathed powers he can access via the use of a single word – 'Shazam' – which turns him into Zachary Levi's hero with super-strength and the ability to fly, among other things.

Eager to use his skills for good, Billy soon finds himself tested when the dangerous Dr Thaddeus Sivana (Mark Strong) decides he wants Billy's powers for himself – and will stop at nothing to get them...

Conscious or not, the arrival of *Shazam* is a definite upturn in terms of bringing a sense of fun to the DCEU (there's no way you can imagine this character, especially as portrayed here, showing up in Zack Snyder's *Batman vs Superman* for example). But those hoping for a *Wonder Woman* or *Aquaman*-esque upturn in quality will be a little disappointed, as while *Shazam* is certainly no disaster, neither is it a film that resonates.

Much of the problem lies in the dreaded 'origin story'; never an easy place to start for a filmmaker, and especially when the universe coming to life here is so rich, it struggles often under the weight of its own narrative, and then, when established, doesn't offer anything particularly original.

While it doesn't quite play 'join the dots', it does use well-worn



SCREEN TALK with GARETH JAMIESON

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tropes and uses them without undercutting them.

But its most obvious touchstone lies not in the world of superheroes, but in the world of Tom Hanks 1980s comedies – while comparisons to *Big* are fairly obvious (and, in one scene, riffed on smartly) there is a strong sense of that film being channelled here, which helps to lend it an airy, lighthearted tone in the main.

The casting is pretty spot-on: Asher Angel as the damaged Billy is smart yet emotionally vulnerable, while Jack

Dylan Grazer as the superhero-obsessed Freddie (cue plenty of subtle references to DC films of the past) is smart-mouthed and immensely likeable.

It hangs on the performance of Zachary Levi, however, whose man-child in a cape is wonderfully realised. Levi has smart comic timing and convinces that, while he has the body of an Olympian, he has the mindset of a teenager.

The performances around them are all likeable enough, but Mark Strong's villainous Sivana doesn't really connect. The story at least tries to give him a backstory that funnels his modern-day motivations but, along with his CGI sidekicks, not even an actor as skilled in onscreen villainy as Strong (his second DC villain after playing Sinestro in 2011's unconnected *Green Lantern*) can convince.

Having built his reputation in the horror genre, David F Sandberg may seem like an out-of-the-box choice to helm a lighthearted superhero film, but he shows a steady and assured hand.

There are moments where his horror past comes out to play (a boardroom sequence is chilling, even with a 12A rating), but he seems to relish playing in this world and does a decent, if unspectacular, job.

What it lacks is that extra bit of excitement: that magic dust that makes the ordinary extraordinary; the character of *Shazam* is one that is extremely interesting, and, should they make further films, there is plenty of potential there – however, for his debut outing, he's just a little too ordinary.

VERDICT: Another DC hero makes his big-screen bow, and while lacking the elegant poise of *Wonder Woman* or the underwater craziness of *Aquaman*, *Shazam* offers a steady and assured debut. David F Sandberg's direction ticks the boxes and the cast are all superb company, but it lacks that magic touch to lift it to another level. *Enjoyable.*
SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Green Lantern* (2011), *Aquaman* (2018).

15 years of fun for food festival!

FOOD and drink heaven for festival goers, the bustling, vibrant atmosphere that is the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival will this year celebrate its 15th birthday, with lots of new and exciting additions planned to mark the occasion in style!

A real highlight in the Welsh foodie calendar, this year's event will for the first time play host to its own Vegan Festival – food, drink, cosmetics and clothes, and all included in the festival ticket price.

It promises to be a whole weekend of foodie, family-friendly fun with over 100 exhibitors and three key sites allow something for all.

Free children's activities – from willow weaving to pizza making and 'have a go' ceramics in the Old Hall, food demonstrations, TV chefs, tempting tastings, music and dancing; this is a food festival, but far more than just a food festival.

It takes place on May 26-27 and tickets are £5 (ticket) and £8 (weekend). For further information and to book tickets, visit www.cowbridgefoodanddrink.org.

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Does your waste and recycling collection day fall on the Easter Bank Holiday?

Please don't forget to place out your waste and recycling as normal this Good Friday and Easter Monday for collection*.

Recycling

- Easter egg packaging, including card, plastic and foil can be placed in your green box/blue bag.
- All your food leftovers including vegetable peelings and chocolate! Can go in your food waste bin.

*please remember the only exception to the 2 black bag limit per household is Christmas and New Year



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What's on, and where in your area?

Care & Repair
CARE & Repair Cardiff and the Vale, your local charity for older people assisting with repairs, adaptations and maintenance will be at Penarth Library between 10am-12 noon on Thursday, April 11.

If you are a homeowner with a housing issue, come along!
Book sale
LLANTWIT Major and Cowbridge Lions Club will be holding a used book sale on Saturday, April 13, from 10am to 3pm outside Caffé Nero, Waitrose car park, Cowbridge. All proceeds to support the work of Lions; all welcome to browse.

Spring table top sale
A TABLE Top Sale in Peterston-Super-Ely church and community hall will take place on Saturday, April 13 from 10am - 12pm.

Entry is free and we usually have a wide range of stalls from bric-a-brac (gems from

spring cleaning), to toys and some craft stalls. To book a table and for further details, call Pat on 01446 760267.

This is in addition to the usual village market held on the second Saturday of every month from 10am - 12pm, selling delicious homemade cakes, preserves, produce, plants and a very extensive collection of books. Freshly brewed Fairtrade coffee and tea are served. All proceeds go towards the improvement and maintenance of the hall.

Easter cake sale
FRIENDS of Penarth Library will hold an Easter cake sale and drop-in children's craft session with local artist Mari Wirth at the library in Stanwell Road on Saturday, April 13 between 10am and 1pm.

Brexit meeting
VALE MP Alun Cairns will hold another Brexit meeting this weekend.

It will take place on Saturday, April 13 from 11am - 12:30pm at Barry

Town FC, Jenner Park Stadium, Barry Road, Barry CF62 9BG. All Vale of Glamorgan constituents are welcome. Please email alun.cairns.mp@parliament.uk to register attendance.

Neighbourhood Watch AGM
Highlight Park Community Neighbourhood Watch group is holding its annual general meeting on April 15, at 7pm.

The guest speakers will be PC Bledwyn Jones, Neighbourhood Beat Manager and PCSO Russell Evans. The topic will be local crime issues, and also raising awareness of the threat to young people and vulnerable adults of being coerced or forced into criminal activities.

VOG Fire & Security will also attend, offering advice on safety and protection systems for the home.

Care and Repair
If you are a homeowner or private tenant living in the Vale, perhaps elderly or disabled and in need of advice or support on repairs or home improvements, Care and Repair Cardiff and Vale can help.

They give advice on grants available and information on reputable companies to use. Care and Repair will hold a session at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, April 16 from 10am to 12pm; no appointment is needed, just drop in. Call 01446 732385 for further information.

Free legal advice
AGE Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a legal session at their Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, April 16 from 10am to 12pm.

If you are over 50, maybe worried about making a Will, arranging Power of Attorney or Living Will for example, you can chat to a legal team based in Barry.

No appointment is needed, just come along; call 01446 732385 for further information.

Cowbridge U3A History Group
THE next Cowbridge U3A History Group meeting will be a talk entitled 'The Medieval Cult of St Christopher' by Professor Madeleine Gray at 10pm on Thursday, April 18 in Cowbridge Town Hall.

Visitors welcome; there is a small fee. See www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge for further

information.

Barry War Museum's Book Fest

BARRY War Museum will host a Book Fest on Easter Saturday, April 20, bringing together local authors, publishers, scriptwriters and an award-winning film maker at this free event.

Do you enjoy ghost stories or science fiction - or prefer to lose yourself in a romantic novel? Writers of thrillers, comedy, horror and local interest will all be on hand; renowned military historians will attend with their published works on World War One and World War Two - true stories of local lads who went to war.

There will be children's authors too - all happening from 11am - 3.30pm on Easter Saturday at The Old Railway Station, Barry Island. The steam or vintage trains will be running, the café is open for refreshments and Barry War Museum will be open from 11am to 3.30pm over all four days of the Easter weekend.

Free entrance every day.
New Life Church Easter egg hunt
ON Sunday, April 21 (Easter Sunday) at New Life Church, Barry Island, from 11am an Easter service will be held - all welcome!

An Easter egg hunt will take place on the beach.
Easter egg hunt
LLANTWIT Major

by popular demand

Surf Lifesaving Club is holding an event on Monday, April 22, at 11am at the beach life-guard hut on Llantwit Major Beach.

There will be an Easter egg hunt, face painting, a 'name the bunny' competition, bacon baps, cakes and hot drinks.

Epilepsy support
EPILEPSY Wales run a monthly outreach support group at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop in Holton Road, Barry.

This will be held on Thursday, April 25, from 10.30am to 12pm. Health care professional Lesley Williams from Epilepsy Wales will be in attendance; find out what is available in your area - support groups and advice. No appointment is needed, just come along. Call 01446 732385 for further information.

A Wartime Childhood
RHOOSE and District History Society is hosting a talk by Mr John Sheen whose topic is 'Five Boys and a Pasty (memories of a wartime childhood)'.

It takes place on Friday, April 26, at 7.30pm at Rhose Community Centre. Adults £1 and children 50p.

The Bath trip is back!

THE trip to Bath (fondly known as 'The Trip'), is back by popular demand

on Saturday, May 18, leaving Llantwit Major at 9am and Bath at 5pm, and will cost £20. For tickets, email julieleah3@hotmail.com or call 07780 475877.

The money raised will go towards the Llantwit Major Christmas committee. A Cowbridge pick up is possible, depending on numbers; and raffle prizes would also be welcome.

Diabetes event
ROB Lee from Diabetes UK will give a talk: 'What Is Your Experience of Diabetes Services?' on Tuesday, May 21 in the Board Room, Llandough Hospital, Penarth from 7.30pm-9pm; everyone welcome.

PACT meetings
Newton PACT at Newton School Rooms, Newton on Tuesday, April 23 at 6.30pm.

Litchard, Pendre and Coity PACT at Litchard Mission, Litchard on Thursday, April 25 at 7pm.

Oldcastle PACT at the Library, Brynteg Comprehensive School on Thursday, May 2 at 6pm.

Morfa town PACT at Penybont Junior School, Minerva Street, Bridgend on Thursday, May 9 at 6pm.

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High St, Broad St, Island Rd and Market St

Welcome BARRY You



High Street delivers the 'feelgood factor'

WHAT makes Barry's High Street Shopping Quarter extra special? Well, in a nutshell, the feelgood factor.

Whenever you visit the businesses there, they bristle with energy and enthusiasm. You are guaranteed a warm welcome and a personal service.

In High Street, Broad Street, Island Road and Market Street, there's a huge range of independent businesses from jewellers and toy shops to florists and gift shops.

The traders have always been keen to put something back into the community, organising regular Christmas, Easter and summer events which draw thousands of people.

No wonder High Street was once voted in the top

Shahi Noor celebrates its 30th birthday!

THE popular restaurant and takeaway Shahi Noor, renowned for its Indian dishes, is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.

Owner Mr Rahman said its enduring appeal was because it offered exceptional variety and the highest quality Indian cuisine.

He said: "Our aim is to bring together the best dishes from the Indian

sub-continent, cooked by our team of top chefs.

"We are passionate about great food and we want our customers to enjoy the highest quality and the most delicious authentic dishes. At Shahi Noor you can enjoy biriyani, balti, chef special dishes, prawns, korahi specials, Persian dishes, vegetable dishes and many more."

Bookings can be made by calling 01446 735706 or 732338. To view the full menu, go to www.shahinoor.co.uk

five independent shopping areas of the UK.

In fact, local traders picked up another well-deserved award last week.

They won the Bro Radio 'Making a Difference Through Business Award,' sponsored by the Glamorgan GEM!

Former chairman of High Street Traders, Tony Hopkins, who was on hand to receive the award, said: "I still can't believe we won. To be nominated for the award was an honour itself but to win is just amazing."

"High Street has always had strong ties with the local community because most of the shop owners live in Barry so the events that we hold are our way of giving something back to our community."

"Planning and holding these events takes a lot of time and effort but seeing the crowds they attract and the happy smiling faces on the day makes all of the hard work worthwhile."

"Winning the award shows our efforts are appreciated and as long as the people want events in High Street, we'll keep on holding them."

"Thank you to everyone who nominated and voted for us, we really are proud to have won."



High Street Traders were thrilled to win the Bro Radio 'Making a Difference Through Business Award' sponsored by the Glamorgan GEM.

Vintage coffee shop is the ideal place for a break



Afternoon tea is a speciality at The Grind House.

AFTER your Easter shopping in High Street, why not meet up with friends for coffee and cake or lunch and a glass of wine?

The Grind House is a lovely vintage coffee shop offering freshly brewed coffee and tea, fresh cakes and pastries, or a Welsh breakfast, with locally produced homemade sausages, and is served all day.

Lunchtimes include

freshly made paninis, baguettes, jacket potatoes or home cooked honey roast ham and chips.

Treat yourselves to an afternoon tea with sandwiches, scones with jam and clotted cream, coconut macaroons and crisps, and unlimited tea or coffee; or celebrate a special occasion with a bottle of Prosecco.

The Grind House is also available for baby showers and other celebrations.

Vinylize will supply your printed clothing



Tony Peters prints designs on clothing and produces posters for clients.

TONY Peters began his Vinylize business from home and now has a large showroom on Broad Street.

He's the go-to man for dozens of companies and clubs in the Vale, supplying all sorts of clothing with an embroidered or printed finish.

He told The GEM: "We print designs on all sorts of clothing such as t-shirts, hoodies, football tops and sports kit."

"We've supplied companies, football clubs, karate clubs, rowing teams and surf lifesaving clubs. We provide a lot of t-shirt tops for hen and stag parties."

Designs don't just go on items of clothing – Tony can put them on canvas. Family photos, for example, can make a nice gift. He also produces a lot of posters for clients.

Vinylize is located at 21 Broad Street, Barry (01446 311935).

Budding Designs is available 24 hours a day!



Nicola Hopkins of Budding Designs Flower Studio will soon celebrate her first anniversary at High Street, Barry.

BUDDING Designs Flower Studio, which is about to celebrate its first anniversary on High Street, is a florist and gift shop wrapped into one.

What's more, customers can call into the shop at 1 High Street or browse at their leisure online at www.buddingdesigns.co.uk.

The owner, Nicola Hopkins, who qualified at Pencoed Horticultural College in 1993, said: "Our first year has gone really well. We specialise in wedding flowers, sympathy flowers and arrangements

for special occasions like birthdays and anniversaries.

"We also run popular workshops throughout the year on hand-tied bouquets, flower head-dresses and Christmas wreaths."

"We also have lots of homeware gifts, a card selection and gift vouchers."

When Nicola started the business, she was determined to make her products and services as accessible as possible and explained: "Not everybody can get down to High Street – that's why so many people like to browse the website – we can also be found on Facebook and Instagram."

SHAHI NOOR

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Mr Rahman and staff would like to thank their loyal customers for their continued support and wish them a **Happy Easter.**

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Easter

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01446 404660

High St, Broad St, Island Rd and Market St

WELCOME BARRY YOU

Food for Thought delicacies will tempt you this Easter!



The Food for Thought team wants to wish their customers a very happy Easter.

VISITING 'Food for Thought' family deli and takeaway is always a pleasure.

It's not just the delicious foods, it's the warm welcome customers receive. Many are known by their first names. That's not surprising, because the deli has acquired dozens of regulars over many years.

The business was first started 36 years ago by Dave and Lynda Keeble. Their son Nathan and his wife Sarah took over running the deli in 2001, but with the same friendly style.

The cheerful team are always on the go – providing an endless supply of baguettes, sandwiches, paninis, pasties and salads for local workers and High Street business owners.

Of course, there's a mouth-watering array of other items to choose from – choice meats, bread, cheeses, chutneys, preserves and cakes.

With Easter on the horizon, it's advisable to make an early trip to Food for Thought to make sure you get what you need for the holiday break.

On Easter Saturday, the deli will open from 7pm until 4pm.

Family Magic Show free tickets!



THE World's Smallest Magic Theatre, The Small Space on Island Road in Barry, is giving away four tickets to their Easter Family Magic shows.

Fellow directors and Magic Circle magicians Bryan Gunton and Jasper Blakeley are presenting their 90-minute funny, family-friendly magic show during the holidays, and it's your chance to be there too!

Suitable for children eight years old and up, this fast-paced funny magic show has amazing sleight of hand, mind-reading and traditional conjuring all mixed in with loads of fun and laughter.

For your chance to win four tickets (value £50) simply correctly name the face-down card underneath Bryan's hand in the photo and email your guess to: info@thesmallspace.co.uk.

Shows are from April 15 to April 26 and the competition closes on Sunday, April 14 at midnight. Correct answers will be put in a hat and the winner will be drawn at random and informed by noon on Monday, April 15.

Here's a clue: it's not a red card, it's not a spade, it's not a court card and it's lower than a 5...

For times and tickets for The Family Magic Show visit www.thesmallspace.co.uk/whats-on. The Small Space is at 5 Island Road, Barry CF62 7AR.

Sew Lovely are thrilled to join Barry High Street

CONRAD and Carol Bartlett are delighted to bring their sewing shop to High Street, Barry, and are looking forward to welcoming new and old customers alike to the new premises.

They told The GEM: "We have had a very friendly welcome and hope our shop will bring new customers to this fantastic street."

"High Street in Barry is a great friendly area where you can get pretty much everything you need from independent retailers and we are glad to be a part of it."

"We have already run out of space filling the shop with fabric and haberdashery so we will continue to run our lessons and workshops from our studio in Penarth."

For more information go to: www.sewlovely-penarth.com



Conrad and Carol Bartlett are welcoming customers to their new premises at 30 High Street, Barry.

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For all your sewing needs
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Entertainment this April



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Debyanne and the Doctor



Saturday 13th April
Mark Sheppard

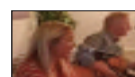
Friday 19th April
The Maddisons

Saturday 20th April
DJ ED 80s - 90s Night



Bank Holiday Sunday
The Scoundrels

Friday 26th April
Jumpin Jimmy and the Nice Guys



Saturday 27th April
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High St, Broad St, Island Rd and Market St

Welcome BARRY You

For that special item...



Bespoke Jewellery is on Island Road.

BESPOKE Jewellery on Island Road will make original pieces of jewellery to your design or revive old and broken ones.

The business has two goldsmiths, and if someone brings in a design they will create and produce the finished product. Bespoke Jewellery also supplies gemstones and diamonds.

The owner Robert Linder said: "We can also do repairs and remodelling of

jewellery – melting something down and turning it into something new.

"We also have a clean and polish service for £10 to keep jewellery in the best condition. We can tighten stones that are moving around, or deal with a problem clasp or claw."

Robert advises people to have much loved pieces checked over once a year to make sure they are kept in the best possible condition.

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'Magical' toys in the High Street



Jill Mathews has a huge range of traditional toys and many of them encourage youngsters to be creative.

GIGGLES is High Street's traditional toy shop with more than a few surprises up its sleeve.

Jill Mathews, who started the business more than six years ago, explained: "I wanted toys that are magical and educational and would encourage children to use their imaginations."

Many of the toys are collectable. There's the Ty Flippables range; popular puzzles

including 'The World of David Walliams' and 'Roald Dahl'; the Top Model creative art and design range for girls; Dino Dudes Scratch and Sketch activity books; Jellycat super soft toys (ideal for little ones) and Orchard Toys, which are educational games and puzzles.

Jill is always on hand to provide advice to parents. She says there is always one theme that attracts youngsters – "anything to do with dinosaurs!"

GIGGLES



It's all about the BUNNIES

- Jellycat Bunnies
- Peter Rabbit & Friends ty beanie
- Peter Rabbit traditional wooden toys
- Jigsaws and games from 0 to adult
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Enjoy a new treatment at The Beauty Clinic

OVER the last 14 years Michaela Glass, owner of the Beauty Clinic at 43 High Street, has always striven to bring the most up to date beauty treatments to Barry.

One of the most popular treatments at the moment is COMCIT skin resurfacing, which uses cryo to freeze the

face and micro-needling and oxygen to plump out fine lines and wrinkles.

But that's just one of the many treatments available – there's micro blading for eyebrows, hair removal, jowl lifts, eye revive, waxing, facials, nail extensions, reflexology and eyelash extensions.

To book your treatment call 01446 743222.

Beautiful bouquets in stock at Beautiful Lily

Award-winning florist Helen Huggins.

AWARD-WINNING 'Beautiful Lily Florist' at 92 High Street has an excellent reputation for its bouquets, wreaths and special arrangements.

Whether it's a wedding, birthday, anniversary or funeral, Beautiful Lily will create a stunning arrangement.

Last year, the owner Helen Huggins was named 'Welsh Florist of the Year' and this year she has been nominated in the independent business category of the Welsh Independent Retail Awards.

Helen said: "I want to thank all my customers for their support and wish them a happy Easter."



Beautiful Lily Florist

92 High Street, Barry
01446 677010

Easter Special

"Spring Posy" £12.00
(offer ends 15th April)

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Look out for The GEM's full coverage of High Street's Easter activities in the coming weeks!

Vic Hopkins is now in store or online



Easter orders at Vic Hopkins & Son can be taken at the shop or online.

VIC Hopkins & Son Family Butchers Ltd, which has been providing high quality meat produce for more than 50 years, is one of the longest established local businesses and always keen to keep up to speed with the times.

Now customers can go online to select their choice meats – or, of course, pop into the shop.

The new website was launched in February

and Anthony Hopkins explained: "I hope people will take time to visit the website. This Easter is our dry run for Christmas and it's an exciting innovation."

"We have our special Easter order form at the shop, but people can go on the website too. The deadline for Easter orders is Wednesday, April 17."

There's an Easter section on the website for people to browse. There's also a delivery service available, just ask in store for details, or visit the website. For more information, go to: welshbutchers.co.uk

Barringtons

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'HQ2 The Salon' invites you to launch party



From left to right: Mollie, Jaydene, Lucy, Dawn, Georgia, and Kate.

HQ2 The Salon has moved from Holton Road to 11 High Street and is holding a launch party on Saturday, April 13.

The owner Dawn Vaughan said: "People are welcome to come along and meet the team. There will be goodie bags, nibbles and Prosecco. The launch event starts at 4.30pm and goes on until late."

"Since we've come to High Street, the other traders have been wonderful – really welcoming and friendly. It is so nice to be part of the community."

All the women at HQ2 The Salon are trained to highest level – level three.

The salon offers all kinds of hair styling and cuts, eyebrows, eye-lash extensions, nails, semi-permanent makeup and waxing.

'Homemade in Wales' has great Springtime gifts

HOMEMADE Wales specialises in working with local artists and makers to bring the people of the Vale (and beyond) unique gifts and homewares.

Since starting the business four and a half years ago, Fay Blakeley the owner has enjoyed meeting and discovering new artists and makers. One such maker is local potter Jonathan Griffiths of Gwaelod Y Garth Pottery.

Jonathan joined the

Homemade Wales 'family' two years ago and creates beautiful hand thrown pots. Jonathan said: "It's a pleasure to work with Fay and Homemade Wales. She always pushes me to come up with new products and ideas for her customers."

"It's great to work with someone who understands the process and practice of professional artists."

Jonathan visited the shop earlier in the week to restock his popular hand-thrown homeware range, especially his 'Blodau' (flower) jugs.

Fay said: "We're delighted to be stocked for Easter, the jugs are the perfect size for spring flowers and make the perfect alternative gift to a chocolate egg."

You can find Homemade Wales on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



Fay Blakeley of Homemade Wales with Jonathan Griffiths of Gwaelod Y Garth Pottery.



High Street Pharmacy's five-star service!



HIGH Street Pharmacy takes pride in being one of the few remaining independent pharmacies left in Barry, and in providing a smooth and efficient service for its customers.

Gwawr Davies Jones explained: "Our prescription collection service ensures our patients obtain their medication as seamlessly as possible."

"We firmly believe in going 'above and beyond' for all our customers because we know how stressful it can be dealing with GP surgeries and pharmacies, as well as looking after your own health."

"This is why we collect from all the surgeries in Barry and Sully every day and offer a free delivery service. Signing up to our repeat system is really easy – all patients need to do is pop in or give us a call

on 01446 733789 and we'll do the rest. Find us on Facebook and you'll see all our five-star reviews!"

The team at High Street Pharmacy provides a friendly and efficient service for customers.



VIC HOPKINS & SON

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Family stage music festival to remember 'incredible' Ben

THE family and friends of Ben McDonald, who died at the finish line of the 2018 Cardiff Half Marathon, have organised a festival style event called 'The BenJam' on May 2 at the Depot, Dumballs Road, Cardiff.

The event will include live music, food and stalls with the aim of bringing people together, celebrating his life and raising awareness and vital funds for the charity Welsh Hearts/Calonnau Cymru.

Ben's family said: "On October 7, 2018 our world was completely turned upside down when Ben McDonald died at the finish line of the Cardiff Half Marathon. He was 25 years old, fit and healthy, and his death has left our family shattered. If you didn't know Ben then you need to know he was amazing!"

"He was funny, generous, caring, effortlessly cool, adventurous and always smiling, an incredible son, brother, uncle, grandson, and friend. If you didn't have the chance to meet him then you missed out on someone really special."

"Ben was always great at pulling people together, organising social events, hosting barbecues or pizza nights at our family home, gorge walking, or off on impromptu camping trips."

"He made good solid friends wherever he went. So in honour of



him, and because of who he was, we want to keep that connection with people going. We are going to celebrate Ben's birthday in the way that he would: surrounded by people and trying to focus on the positive."

"We have chosen to support the work of Welsh Hearts, and all proceeds will be going to them. We chose Welsh Hearts because we believe in the work that they are doing to install defibrillators across Wales and to offer heart screening."

"Ben was also so proud to be Welsh! We don't know if screening would have helped Ben, and unfortunately on the day, the defibrillator wasn't able to save his life, but at least we know that he was given that chance. We believe that everyone should be given the same chance if they find themselves, or a loved one in a similar situation."

Since 2013 Welsh Hearts has played a

leading role in improving heart health in Wales. This is vitally important work, since one third of all deaths in the country are as the result of cardiovascular disease.

To date they have supplied over 1,500 defibrillators, trained over 52,000 people in defibrillator and CPR training and screened over 2,500 young hearts for abnormalities.

The charity's heart screening initiative, which has been backed by former Wales Rugby captain Sam Warburton, involves a test which helps detect previously undiagnosed heart conditions in 10-45 year olds.

The McDonald family recently attended the delivery of a petition to the Senedd with Welsh Hearts charity director Sharon Owen, requesting that heart screening become mandatory for all 10-35 year olds.

"It's our mission to continue to provide defibrillators throughout Wales, to continue to

grow the army of individuals who are fully trained in CPR and defibrillator use, and to lead the campaign for better awareness of cardiovascular health in Wales.

"We're so grateful to Ben's family for choosing to support us during what has been an incredibly difficult time for them. It's been an honour to get to know the people closest to Ben, and their resilience has been inspiring."

Confirmed acts for The BenJam include Dyme, Jellis and Jacob Sparkes with more to be announced. There will also be a raffle, with some incredible prizes including CIWW vouchers, Glamorgan T20 tickets, food and drinks vouchers for a selection of bars and restaurants across Cardiff, quad biking vouchers and more.

A Welsh rugby shirt, signed by the team the day after they won the Grand Slam this year will also be auctioned off for the charity, along with a rugby ball signed by Welsh Hearts ambassador and former Wales Rugby captain Sam Warburton.

The event is open to everyone of all ages. More information and tickets for The BenJam are available at www.facebook.com/thebenjam710.

For more information on Welsh Hearts' heart screening initiative and to book an appointment, visit welshhearts.org/heart-screening-wales.



The winning team from Pencoedre High School.

School pupils soar in CAVC Aerospace Challenge

BUDDING aircraft engineers from schools across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan have been put through their paces at a special Aero Challenge held by Cardiff and Vale College (CAVC).

The year-10 pupils travelled to the college's International Centre for Aerospace Training (ICAT) for the annual challenge.

The competition has been designed to give school pupils a taste of the various tasks involved in the aerospace engineering industry, and to show the value of vocational education, with CAVC learners helping out and acting as ambassadors.

A team from Pencoedre High School won the contest, retaining their title as a team from the school

were the winners last year. The competition involved tests of hand and eye skill and project management – the pupils also got to try their hands at the college's flight simulator.

Pencoedre High School maths teacher Holly Bryant said: "ICAT is an amazing venue, the staff are really friendly and helpful from the moment you step into the building. The activities are great – the pupils really like the variety and I think it really shows a number of different avenues they could go down in the future."

"It was really nice to have the CAVC learners there too – they were really helpful and enthusiastic and the pupils liked speaking to them about the courses they were doing."

Valeways walkers stroll in the heart of the Vale

IT was a bright, warm sunny morning when 14 Valeways walkers joined John at the Sportsman's Rest in Peterston-super-Ely for a morning walk.

Instead of going north across the railway, the group opted to go south towards Kingsland. excavated in 1914, the remains of 50 bodies were found. Crossing Dyffryn Lane, they walked towards the Downs and then back over the A48 to cross the peaceful Natural Burial Ground into Haelfaes and a small valley, stopping for a while to watch twin lambs being born.

They joined the track from St Nicholas to Homri and then headed downhill over fields to reach the Wyndham Park estate, built in the early 1900s and part of the proposed Glyn Cory Garden Village development, influenced by the ideas of Ebenezer Howard to a plan devised by Thomas Adams in consultation with the garden designer, TH Mawson.

The group crossed the river by the modern footbridge to arrive back at the start where a warm welcome was waiting in the pub. Many thanks to the staff at the Sportsman's Rest for their hospitality and the use of the car park.

The Valeways spring programme is now available, visit www.valeways.org.uk for details. **John Treby, Valeways walk leader**

Farmers' union says that meat production statistics do not apply to Wales

RECENT reports highlighting the large quantities of water needed to produce meat and dairy products are well wide of the mark in Wales, where it's mainly rain water which irrigates the lush pastures, a spokesman for the Farmers' Union of Wales (FUW) has said.

Such reports are based on global figures which group together the extensively-reared cattle and sheep of Wales with the intensive farms of the US.

"Here the majority of stock benefit from green water, the worldwide definition of the rainfall that is used at the place where it falls," said Charlotte Priddy, FUW policy officer.

Although no studies currently focus on Wales, one looking at beef and lamb water footprints in England showed 84 per cent and 97 per cent

respectively as 'green'. Charlotte added: "It is so important to consider water use in context. In a temperate, wet climate such as Wales, grassland water requirements are adequately met by this green water from rainfall. Even when grey water is considered, more than 80 per cent of water consumption for beef and lamb production in the UK is rainfall."

"Meanwhile British supermarkets are selling thousands of tonnes of avocados from Chile, where villagers claim water is being diverted from illegal pipes to irrigate their crops, causing wells to dry up. It takes 74 gallons of water to produce one pound of avocados. cehumboldt.ucanr.edu/?blogtag=avocado&blogasset=23438 "By eating local, seasonal produce wherever possible, following the full story of the foods you eat, you can have peace of mind about water use and also reduce carbon emissions," she added.

'Amazing' achievement at St Cyres

ST Cyres School in Penarth is pleased to announce that three of its teachers, Richard Hopkin, Laura Hillout and Damian Parker, have been welcomed to the Apple Distinguished Educator class of 2019.

In 1994 Apple created the Apple Distinguished Educators (ADE) programme to recognise primary, secondary and higher education pioneers who use technology to transform teaching and learning. They describe ADEs as authors, advisors, ambassadors and advocates of what's possible by bringing new technology to teaching and learning.

There are now around 2,800 ADEs worldwide in 45 countries. St



Cyres believes it to be unprecedented in the UK for three new ADEs to be successful from one school in the yearly programme.

Steve MacKenzie, education director for Apple, stated: "We think this is a tremendous credit to you all for your hard work in creating an

innovation culture at St Cyres School and supporting this culture with ongoing professional learning."

Headteacher Dr Jonathan Hicks said: "A total of 175 ADEs came from Europe, Middle East, India and Africa with 36 from the UK in 2019. There are only

three ADEs this year from Wales and, amazingly, they all come from St Cyres School.

"This outstanding achievement once again shows that St Cyres School is at the forefront of digital teaching and learning."

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk



Spring Cowbridge Feature



Spring is here and it's time to discover what's new in Cowbridge

Everything you could want for Easter at The Pencil Case!



JRC Jewellery offer quality items and a comprehensive repair service.

YOUR LOCAL FAMILY JEWELLERS



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COWBRIDGE'S USP has always been that it is a quintessential market town, where very little changes – but that is not the case at the moment.

Its population is on the rise, due to two building projects, one in the town and another just outside.

Visitors coming to Cowbridge from the west can't fail to notice Clare Garden Village - around 500 homes and a school are on the way - while in the town, just off Westgate, Churchill Retirement Living are building De Clare Lodge, a development of 37 homes.

Clare seems to be a popular name with developers.

There are also plans for the historic parts of the town, where the old cattle sheds that were part of the livestock market will be removed, putting Cowbridge's ancient town walls on show again, and freeing up an area to improve car parking.

Something else that happened over the last year was that the town was honoured in the 'Great British High Street' awards - receiving the accolade of 'Rising Star' in Wales. With more ideas and plans in the pipeline, the town's chamber of trade is setting its sites on the top award in the near future.

However, the overall look and feel of Cowbridge - that market town profile - remains unchanged.

The town counts itself fortunate to be a place where new, independent retailers want to do business, and fresh faces have arrived in the last 12 months - always a good sign.

Cowbridge still boasts a wide range of shops where you can browse to your heart's content, and it still has plenty of places - cafes, pubs, restaurants and bars - where you can take a break or enjoy a great meal.

One valuable piece of advice in Cowbridge is to investigate any alleyway or side road you come across - you never know what might be just around the corner.

A good case in point is in Verity's Court, which has two businesses who complement each other very well.

Elly Worgan runs the Buttercup Cwtch on the ground floor, while Jenny Lambert is very much the artist in residence on the first floor.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26



Get a fresh new look this year at Sylvia Williams



Gionni designer sunglasses are available from Sylvia Williams.

THE Cowbridge pharmacists, Sylvia Williams, has added two new strings to its bow recently, with a top designer sunglass stylist, and a range of Gionni handbags.

The tres stylish 'Gionni' range of designer sunglasses offers both quality and style, for men and women.

With a string continental look, the Gionni range starts at £18, and are well worth a look with summer not so far away.

SYLVIA WILLIAMS CHEMIST

Also stocking leading cosmetic brands...



34 High Street,
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If you are looking for chocolate-free Easter gifts for children, pop along to The Pencil Case on Eastgate.

Owner Sally Stephenson told us: "We have a fabulous range of Easter gifts for children of all ages. Popular themes feature right across our range, including unicorns, dinosaurs, ballerinas, space and vehicles."

"Older children love our brightly coloured stationery - pens and pencils, secret diaries, colouring pens and pencils and the very popular range of Top Model colouring and sticker books."

"For younger children, we have a wide range of educational Orchard Toys games and jigsaws, cute rucksacks and soft

toys." There are two special offers running at The Pencil Case this Easter - receive a free Easter egg when you buy any 10 collectible Iwako erasers - a novel alternative to chocolate eggs, it is a fun way for children to store their eraser collection and will last much longer!

Alternatively, spend £15 or more on anything from the Top Model range and receive a free children's watch!

Both offers available while stocks last.

The Pencil Case also stocks contemporary greetings cards in Welsh and English and a wide range of helium balloons. Open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Saturday (closed on Good Friday).



The pencil case
COWBRIDGE

Easter/Pasg

NEW - Orchard Toys games & jigsaws
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See more on the
Cowbridge feature on
pages 26 and 27.



Spring into Cowbridge this Easter!



Jean Tait at La Mercerie.



Jenny Lambert at work at her studio.



Elly Worgan at Cwtch.



Barking Mad has doggie Easter eggs.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

The Buttercup Cwtch's speciality is cards, and Elly stocks a huge variety, in both English and Welsh languages, and it's hard to imagine any shopper going away without the perfect card for any occasion. She does a four-for-£10 offer which has proved very popular.

The shop also carries a wide range of crafts, gifts and jewellery, and Elly is proud to say that around 80 per cent of these goods are made in Wales. Carrie Elspeth Jewellery is based in Llandow now, but started off just around the corner in Cowbridge, while she has other suppliers from Porthcawl, Sully and all over south Wales.

The Buttercup Cwtch will be hosting

the Cowbridge Chamber of Trade's Easter Egg Hunt, which will take place from April 12 to April 24.

Upstairs you will find artist Jenny Lambert, who specialises in bright, colourful and quirky Welsh landscapes - very often local - where she likes to play around with perspective.

She enjoyed art at school, taking her A-Levels, but then didn't paint for about 15 years. She said: "My dad suggested I start again and I found my own style. I went professional just over a year ago."

She has displayed her work previously in Barry and in Ogmere-by-Sea (in Cobble Kitchen and Deli) but now Cowbridge has a permanent home for her work.

Jenny takes commissions and also has her paintings available on colourful coasters, postcards, mugs and tea towels, which are in stock and on sale alongside her original art work and prints.

Alfred Hitchcock used to make a cameo appearance in his films, and Jenny does her own version, as hidden in every painting is her black Labrador, Tinker. Be careful if you start looking for him in every painting, as you could be there for some time!

If you find your way back onto the High Street, just along the way is Tallia, a fashion shop run by Susan Jones.

Susan told The GEM: "I've been open 18 months now, and it has been nice getting to know my customers and finding

out what they like.

"I am excited about this season as I have some new brands which I know customers old and new will love.

"This season is full of vibrant colours and floral patterns for smart and casual wear. There is a look for every occasion."

Across the road you will find JRC Jewellery, which is run by a father-and-daughter team, Jonathan Mahoney and Rowena.

They have been in business in Cowbridge for six years now, and have an established reputation as a company that makes bespoke jewellery, offers a full repair service, does ring alterations, fixes chains, repairs watches and

restrings beaded necklaces - all done by experts.

Jonathan and Rowena do, of course, sell fine jewellery too, and you can choose from a wide range, including diamond pieces and Welsh Clogau Gold.

As you move up the High Street, it changes into Eastgate, and there you will find Aimee Richardson, who opened 'Barking Mad' just nine months ago.

As the name suggests, Aimee's aim is to help owners get exactly what they want for their pet dog.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

Commissions

Original Artwork & Prints

Local Welsh Art

Find Tinker in every painting!

Exciting New Partnership in Cowbridge!

Elly at Buttercup Cwtch has recently welcomed the local artist Jenny Lambert to open an art gallery in the upstairs of the shop, giving customers a full Welsh experience with locally sourced products and Welsh art.

Situated in Verity's Court, accessible by Arthur John's on the High St or via North Rd, this duo is a real hidden gem and definitely worth a visit when you're next in Cowbridge.

@jennylambertart f i t @buttercupcwtch

Welsh Language Cards & Gifts

Locally Sourced Products

Huge selection of cards

All 4 for £10

Spring Cowbridge Feature

Plenty on offer in Cowbridge



Susan Jones at Tallia is excited about this season's new styles.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

She has enjoyed getting to know her customers and, because she is active on Facebook and Instagram, she is able to respond quickly when suggestions are made about things she should look to keep in stock.

Later this month, on Easter Saturday (April 20), she is organising a doggie fancy dress competition.

She said: "To enter, just bring your pet to the shop on the day between 10am and 4pm, and I will take a photo. Later in the day, the judges will decide on the best dressed dog!"

At La Mercerie, in The Old Mason's Yard, Jean Tait offers a haven for knitting enthusiasts. She has a huge range of yarns, and the shop hosts two groups of enthusiasts who come together to refine their technique and compare notes - not forgetting the social side.

The groups meet on a Wednesday, 1pm to 3pm and 6pm to 8pm. Jean

says that the evening group has a younger profile, with members finding knitting a good way to wind down after a busy day.

Crochet is getting more popular at the moment, because there are so many elaborate designs to choose.

Jean said: "One member is working on a farmyard blanket where parts of it are 3-D, with animal heads sticking out."

"I've suggested that it is looking so good that it could be a wall hanging instead."

In a way, La Mercerie illustrates the attraction of the town. Yes, Cowbridge has supermarkets, pharmacies, coffee shops, designer boutiques, artists, gift shops and so much else, but it also has enterprises with strong roots in their community - very much part of the social fabric of the town.

Cowbridge is very much a 'Rising Star' - but it remains a real market town.

A welcome to Cowbridge from the town mayor

EXTEND a warm welcome, Croeso Cynnes, to all visitors to our special town, Cowbridge.

I hope that you enjoy your visit and spend some quality time exploring the range of interesting places and things to do here in Cowbridge.

As a market town in the heart of the rural vale of Glamorgan we have so much to offer.

From the numerous independent coffee shops, hotels, restaurants and pubs, to the major chain coffee outlets you are ensured a warm and friendly welcome in a relaxed atmosphere.

For shoppers, from antiques and memorabilia to top end designer wear, you can find it all here.

As you wander along our 'Rising Star' award-winning High Street, take time to look behind the scenes where you will find old cobbled alleyways and courtyards with interesting and different shops.

The old town walls can still be seen, and it is worth visiting the award-winning Physic Gardens and the Old Hall Gardens which offer a tranquil and interesting environment.

The start of the Iolo Morganwg trail can be found in the Old



Hall Gardens accessed through an arch off the High Street by the Old Hall.

Whatever your interest, whether it be sporting, leisure, shopping or culture, I am sure that Cowbridge will have something to offer. From our annual Cowbridge Music Festival, our Food and Drink Festival later next month, our May Day events, the museum in the original prison cells at the Town Hall, our wide range of sporting facilities and events, there will be something for everyone.

As the Mayor of the town, I am proud of what Cowbridge has to offer and I hope that your visit will be a pleasant and happy experience.

Terry L Williams
Mayor of Cowbridge
(Ancient Borough) with Llanblethian



41 High St, Cowbridge, CF71 7AE

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• Exquisite Ladies Fashion •

Has the GEM been biased over Brexit?

WE noted and appreciated Mr Cairns' thanks regarding the politeness and respectful behaviour of the audience at his public meeting at the Duke of Wellington pub last week (GEM letters, April 4).

However we are disappointed that he continues to ignore those of us who avidly wish to remain in the EU, particularly as we make up the majority of the electorate in the Vale - more than half in fact, according to the 2016 referendum result.

It is clear from his letter that Mr Cairns is afraid of the pro-Brexit lobby and is thus voting accordingly (or not at all). Mr Cairns should represent ALL of his constituents, not just those who voted to leave.

He would be well advised not to ignore his remain-supporting constituents - over 8,000 people in the Vale (11 per cent of the electorate) have already signed the six million signature petition to revoke Article 50 and remain in the EU. Mr Cairns will no doubt be aware of this and should take serious note that this figure represents many thousands more votes than his current majority (2,190).

Vale of Glamorgan for Europe is a polite voice for remain, but we are also a very powerful voice, an active part of a large and influential network across both Wales and the UK. It is abundantly clear, as we have demonstrated numerous times in our surveys across the Vale, that more and more people now want Brexit to just go away, be stopped and not be constantly discussed in the media all the time. The best way for this to happen is for the whole process to be halted and for the UK to remain in the EU.

As Jacob Rees-Mogg helpfully pointed out only last Friday morning, the UK is a powerful force in Europe and clearly should remain so. The best deal for Wales (and the UK as a whole) is not May's deal or a Corbyn-May deal, but the one we already have with the EU. Mr Cairns would do well to remember that and should be in no doubt that his voting record on Brexit thus far has already greatly endangered his chances of re-election in the Vale.

We also note that although The GEM has claimed to be non-partisan and as a result refused to publish articles sent to the paper regarding the activities of Vale for Europe, they have been perfectly happy to publish Mr Cairns' pro-Brexit views both in his letter and the corresponding article on page 4 of last week's edition without once mentioning the very active pro-remain side of the Vale.

This is not in any way non-partisan and shows The GEM does not

actually respect the neutral editorial stance the paper claims to have. We sincerely hope that in the interest of full disclosure, that this week you will publish our letter in full as an alternative view to those of Mr Cairns. It is also incumbent on our local newspaper to inform its readers that a very large, active and respected pro-remain group exists in the Vale.

On behalf of Vale of Glamorgan for Europe

GEM response:

The GEM totally rejects the two claims in this letter. The very short account of the meeting in Cowbridge simply recorded that it took place, and that the atmosphere had been civilised, and that Mr Cairns repeated his position that he had voted remain but accepted the decision to leave.

In terms of Brexit coverage in general, The GEM took the view some time ago that readers were in danger of being swamped by Brexit rhetoric. Almost every daily national newspaper devotes between three and six pages a day to the subject, so the idea that The GEM could offer some sort of weekly round-up, for instance, was never a practical proposition.

Remember also that The GEM is a small, local newspaper, and a comprehensive coverage of Brexit requires a political correspondent, a business correspondent, an economics correspondent, and a foreign correspondent.

Why does a newspaper need all those experts? Simply to put in context the various claims made by both sides that have contributed to a heated, potentially overwhelming and frequently toxic debate.

Has The GEM handled this correctly? To be frank, we are not sure. We would welcome the views of ordinary readers on this matter. The GEM also asked Alun Cairns MP to respond.

He said: "I fully appreciate the strong feeling on both sides of the Brexit debate and I have taken into consideration the wide-ranging concerns at my public meetings on Brexit, which I have held across the Vale of Glamorgan. I am also holding another such meeting on Saturday in Barry."

"The local authority area, which includes Penarth, voted to Remain by 50.73 per cent. The House of Commons Library's independent research shows that the Vale of Glamorgan Parliamentary constituency (which does not include Penarth) voted to Leave by 52.6 per cent. My personal vote at the 2016 Referendum was to Remain but I am committed to honouring the outcome of the referendum."

Green tea and Tai Chi at Ystradowen WI

THE April meeting began with a talk, demonstration and participation on the martial art Tai Chi.

The speaker was Andy Thompson, a martial arts expert who began by explaining its origin.

He proceeded to show us some gentle moves, followed by an amazing demonstration of his skills.

We were then given the opportunity

to try some very basic moves under his strict guidance. Finally, we were treated to green tea.

Although quite a diverse topic for a WI meeting, it was a welcome and enjoyable change.

Next month's annual and resolutions meeting will be followed by a fish and chip supper and the monthly raffle was won by Audrey Cocco.

SS

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Does the Vale get its fair share of funding for education?

A Penarth primary school head teacher has said he is concerned about how he can deliver Wales' new curriculum because of the squeeze in funding from Welsh Government.

Mr Steve Rees of Evenlode Primary School said things had got more difficult over the last four or five years, that he'd lost 11 staff in three years and that he was concerned as to whether the Vale was getting its fair share of funding. The school hires out its hall to make money and Mr Rees has sometimes cleaned the toilets and hoovered floors to prepare facilities for users.

The Leader of the Vale Council, Cllr John Thomas said the Vale had some of the best schools and teaching staff in Wales but their work was being undermined by a "flawed funding system".

He said: "The Welsh Government claims that the Vale funds its schools at a lower level than any other local authority in Wales. There is a failure to acknowledge that we receive the lowest level of funding for education from Welsh Government in the first instance, as a result of a flawed formula designed by Welsh Government.

While it may have once been effective, this formula has not been reviewed for 18 years and relies on data gathered in the 1991 census.

"It simply beggars belief that the funding of possibly the most important area of our work is determined by data that is almost 30 years old. Both Cllr Penrose, my cabinet member for learning and culture, and myself have raised concerns about this directly

with Welsh Government on numerous occasions.

"The responses I have received have given me absolutely no confidence in the methodology used to distribute education funding across Wales. Perhaps more worryingly, they have also shown a complete unwillingness to reconsider their approach or to address any of the clear flaws that have been raised, preferring instead to bat this issue back to local authorities to resolve."

A Welsh Government spokesperson said: "School funding is the responsibility of local authorities and we note that the Vale of Glamorgan spends the least per pupil in the whole of Wales.

"Every local authority must have a school budget forum - as set out in law - where schools have the opportunity to influence the funding decisions their authorities make. Local authorities must also consult their schools budget forums and all schools in their area when setting a funding formula.

"We recognise that to continue to raise standards, our schools and teachers need additional support. That is why we recently announced the single biggest investment for teachers since devolution - a £24m package of professional learning to support the new curriculum, giving schools the time and resources they need."

The spokesman added: "It is important to note that Welsh Government has presented local authorities, including the Vale of Glamorgan, with proposals to update the 1991 census related element of the current funding formula for local government, however this proposal was not pursued."

Choirs in harmony at spring concert

LLANTRISANT Male Voice Choir and Tabernacle Choir Bridgend were delighted with the very positive comments they received from members of the audience at the end of their joint Spring Concert on April 5 at Tabernacle, Bridgend.

The concert was dedicated to the memory of Ron Norey, the former Tabernacle Choir chairman, who died recently. We were pleased that his widow Joan was able to attend.

This was a very busy evening for Matthew Nash because he is the conductor of both choirs. He was ably supported by accompanist Ryan Wood on the piano.

The programme was certainly made more interesting for everyone by the informative introductions to each section given by Robin Samuel for Tabernacle and chairman Ted Tidman for Llantrisant.

Tabernacle's first half included Ivor Novello's 'We'll Gather Lilacs'; also Bach and Handel with 'Jesus, Joy of Man's Desiring' and 'Zadok the Priest'. The Welsh song 'Cenin Aur' by M Thomas was also well received. Llantrisant delighted with old

favourites such as 'Llef' and Macuff's arrangement of 'Angels' and the first half finished with Matthew's arrangement of 'Can't Take My Eyes Off of You'.

In the second half, Llantrisant opened with 'Gwahoddiad' and closed with 'American Trilogy' arranged by Aldwyn Humphreys. Between these songs they performed a group of modern songs arranged by Matthew: 'Perfect', 'Skyfall' and 'Stay' brought their own variety, and the choir certainly rose to the challenge they presented. Their performance showed an attention to detail, colourful expression and good discipline.

Tabernacle started the second half with a medley from *My Fair Lady*; Welsh songs followed, namely 'Hafan Gobaith' and 'O Fab y Dyn'; the choir was pleased by the warm and enthusiastic reception they received from the audience.

Finally both choirs combined to sing with great feeling the Welsh hymn 'Tydi a Roddaist'. It was a rousing and fitting end to a very enjoyable musical evening.

Local transport could get a green energy boost

LOCAL people are being asked to respond to a consultation on transport issues in Cornelly, Nottage, Rest Bay, Porthcawl, Newton, Bryntririon, Laleston and Merthyr Mawr.

The consultation is about a potential new electric vehicle community transport service that would be powered by renewable energy and serve rural areas in Bridgend.

With the support of Bridgend Reach, the environmental charity Sustainable Wales has contracted a feasibility study for electric vehicle community transport provision to address some rural issues.

An event will be held at Porthcawl YMCA at 7pm on Thursday, April 18, (The Y Centre, John Street, Porthcawl, CF36 3AP).

At the event, preliminary findings of the study will be shared, and everyone attending will be invited to share their views on the outline proposal, as well as to help identify any further transport issues. The event will be facilitated by Gower Power Co-op CIC.

Margaret Minhinick of Sustainable Wales said: "In advance of the event, please let us know about any transport issues you, or the people you support, are experiencing, on <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/N52Z982>"

MM

Holy Week at St Iltyd's, Bridgend

PREPARATIONS are well underway for Holy Week at St Iltyd's Church in Newcastle, Bridgend.

From Monday, April 15 there is a mass each day at 7pm, including Maundy Thursday, as well as the regular 9.30am mass on Wednesday.

On Good Friday (April 19), there is the Veneration of The Cross at 2.15pm and on the following day, Holy Saturday there is a service of Compline at 7pm.

Mass on Easter

Sunday is, as usual, at 10.30am.

Parish priest Father David Lloyd added: "And for those feeling energetic, there is a churchyard clean-up starting at 9.30am on Holy Saturday, so regular churchgoer or not, do come along for some not too arduous work; a friendly chat, some refreshments, and to play your part in the upkeep of Bridgend's most historic churches."

For further information, call Fr David on 01656 655999, or search for @saintiltydbridgend on Facebook.

DL

Season end for the Bridgend Quiz League

THE Bridgend Quiz League's recent Cup and Plate results are as follows:

Cup Final: Penybont AFC Nomads 54, Tondur Railway Club 47.

Plate Final: Mackworth Arms 58, TyRisha Arms 41.

Season's Final tables:
Division One: Penybont AFC Nomads 28 points; Tondur Railway Club 26; Crown Maesteg 23; TyRisha Arms Royals 19; Five Bells A 11; Mackworth Arms 11; Laleston Inn A 8

Division Two: Chatterton Arms Shunters 35; Six Bells Clangers 28; Pheasant Gamekeepers 28;

Laleston Inn B 21; Five Bells B 17; Prince of Wales Rebels 17; Cabo Roche 16; Oddfellows Arms 5.

Here are this week's teasers (answers below):
What is the activity 'natation' better known as?

The characters Fred Jones, Daphne Blake, Velma Dinkley and Norville Rogers appear in which children's TV show?

Which Welshman scored the last international try at the old National Stadium in Cardiff?

Steve Kingscott

Rob Howley:
Swimming: Scooby Doo.
ANSWERS:

Congratulations! Richard and Judith celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary

A Dinas Powys couple who met at the Marina Ballroom at Penarth Pier in the 1950s have just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Richard and Judith Fudge were both living in Cardiff at the time and met at the ballroom in March 1958.

Richard was home on leave from national service.

Judith explained that in the 1950s people from Cardiff used to travel by train to Penarth Train Station and walk down to the pier for an evening of dancing. At midnight buses were laid on to take the dancers back home to various areas of Cardiff.

The couple were married at the registry office in Park Place, Cardiff, on April 4, 1959. They first lived in Canton, then in Caerphilly, but have now lived happily in Dinas Powys for 49 years.

Richard (82) worked as a self-employed



Richard and Judith have lived happily in Dinas Powys for the last 49 years.



Richard and Judith Fudge were married at the registry office, Park Place, Cardiff, on April 4, 1959.

carpenter and Judith (78) worked part-time driving an ambulance for Cardiff City Council, taking elderly and infirm people to appointments.

The couple have two children and seven grandchildren.

On the day of their 60th anniversary, they enjoyed a family celebration at La Marina in Penarth.

Then on Sunday, April 7, 53 family and friends gathered for a party at the Cophorne Hotel.

Cowbridge car boot bonanza on Sunday!

COWBRIDGE Rotary car boot sales get underway again this weekend, starting on Sunday, April 14 in the Cowbridge Town Hall car park at 8.30am.

The Rotary car boot sale has become a popular fixture in the Cowbridge social calendar, hugely successful in supporting local, national and international Rotary charities, among them the president's nominated charities Y Bont - enabling children with a disability to fulfil their potential; Samaritans, and Crisis, together with many other good causes.

It costs just £6 per car/pitch and sellers are advised to arrive around 7am to secure their spot.

Rotarians will be on hand at the car

park entrance to help with parking arrangements.

Cowbridge Rotary car boot sales are held on the second Sunday of every month (April - August) and signposted in and around the town and outskirts in the week leading up to the event. Dates for your diary are:

Sunday April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14 and August 11 (Sunday, September 8, is held as a reserve date in the event of very bad weather).

The boot sales are always popular, with buyers arriving early from 8.30am and the session usually wrapping up around midday. So don't miss out. We are looking forward to seeing you all at the events again this year.

Further enquiries can be directed through the club's website at cowbridge.rotary@yahoo.co.uk.

'Get your blood pressure tested in Cowbridge'

COWBRIDGE Rotary will be supporting a joint venture with the Stroke Association on Saturday, April 13, at the Cowbridge Town Hall (Lesser Hall) between 10am and 1pm to tackle and raise awareness of the ever-increasing incidence of stroke amongst our population.

Cowbridge Rotary has supported this event for more than 20 years, and welcomes anyone to call into the Lesser Hall on Saturday to have their blood pressure taken by a

volunteer health professional.

The service is completely confidential and medical professionals will take blood pressure and provide appropriate advice as necessary.

Rotarians will be on hand at the Town Hall to direct visitors to the Lesser Hall and provide tea and biscuits.

Further enquiries can be directed through the clubs website at: www.cowbridgerotary.club or via email at: cowbridge.rotary@yahoo.co.uk.

Pencoed Phoenix go marching on in the cup after fine victory



Ffion Bowen - All pictures by JULIE HANCOCK.



Rachel Jones and Zoe Reeves.

PENCOED Phoenix under-18s were quickly out of the blocks in this WRU under-18 Cup quarter-final at the woodlands ground against Ynysddu Girls.

Maintaining possession well through the opening phases, the ball was moved wide and centre Mia Davies burst clear and good support play from Cathryn Stacey saw her racing over, skipper Evie Evans adding the conversion.

Phoenix soon added a second try through Davies, Evans hitting the upright with the conversion. Ynysddu then hit back with a fine solo effort from inside her own half from Bethan Thomas.

Phoenix No8 Jaya White then got their third try, breaking the attempted tackle to score from 22 metres out. The home side then returned to the attack with good driving play from Georgina Davies and Rosie Carr putting them on the front foot and sustained pressure within the visitors' 22 saw White again breaking a number of tackles to get her second try, Evans adding the conversion.

Replacement Liv Evans soon made her presence felt, breaking away some 40 metres from her own 22 with sister Evie taking up the running only to be called back for a forward pass when clear.

The visitors then got their second try from Jessica Brooks, who showed just why she is their leading try scorer, showing both pace and strength to fend off two Phoenix defenders to score from some 50 metres and the interval arrived with the home side leading by 24 points to 10.

Phoenix increased their lead early

in the second half, No10 Stacey going solo from her own half, with Evans adding a fine conversion.

A powerful run from Taylor May Briggs put Phoenix back on the attack and Liv Evans went close before the supporting Jess Tuck was on hand to get the touchdown.

The now-depleted Ynysddu ranks were finding it more difficult to keep the home side at bay, and Phoenix forwards Briggs and Emma Powson showed good hands to put front row forward Rosie Carr racing over.

Remarkably in this match it was almost 60 minutes before the first lineup took place!

Jade Thomas then got the next home try, the versatile Thomas picking up some 40 metres out to race clear. Thomas was soon again in the action putting Davies over for her second try with a well-judged offload, which Evans converted.

The impressive Brooks then got her second try for the visitors from inside her own half with Libby Fox converting.

The match was closed out with a brilliant cover tackle from Mia Davies when what appeared almost a certain Ynysddu try would have been scored, and the final whistle blew on this pulsating match at 53-17.

The talented Phoenix squad has been recognized with the call-up of both Jade Thomas and Jaya White to the emerging players Wales development squad with sisters Katie and Rosie Carr on standby - we wish all the girls the very best of luck in their quest for honours.

TR

Bridgend Athletic RFC mini and junior round-up

THE under-7s through to under-10s held their annual mini rugby festival at Bryntirion Comprehensive School on Sunday, April 7, with Ospreys' Tom Habberfield present.

The under-7s welcomed Llanharan, Cefn Cribwr, Beddau, Valley Ravens and Aberdare to the festival, and with the Ath having 24 players available they entered four teams. Each team played a total of six matches. Thank you to all the teams who came, players, coaches and supporters who all played their part in making it an enjoyable, memorable day.

Two under-8s teams welcomed 12 visiting sides from Aberdare, Beddau (3), Cefn Cribwr, Kenfig Hill, Llanharan (2), Machen, Pencoed and Valley Ravens (2).

The Ath boys' performances on Sunday were nothing short of outstanding and not once during a long day did their enthusiasm and passion waver. The teams posted a very respectable set of results, winning six, drawing four and losing just two games.

The under-9s welcomed Aberdare, Llanharan, Ystrad Rhondda and Abercraze, and entered two teams.

Ath One won all five of their games, beating Aberdare 30-5, Abercraze 30-10, Llanharan 30-5, Ath Two 30-15 and Ystrad Rhondda 30-5, while Ath Two beat Ystrad Rhondda 20-5, drew with Llanharan 10-10, lost to Ath One, lost to Abercraze 5-20 and lost to Aberdare 15-20.

Both teams put in a great shift and try scorers were: Ethan Davies (10), Dylan Jones (4), Ethan Morris (4), Rudi Quinn (3), Grayson Lewis Whelan (3), Harry Clark (3), Rhys Gardiner



Bridgend Athletic under-9s at their festival with Ospreys Tom Habberfield and Harri Morgan.



Bridgend Athletic under-10s at their festival.

(3), Oliver Turvey (3), Mason Brown (2), Regan Henly (2), Max Edwards, Rory Whyte, Dylan Gardiner, Seth James and Osian Lord.

Stand out performers in defence were Ethan Davies, Osian Kenny, Max Edwards, Rhys Gardiner, Osian Lord, William Waite and Charlie Howells.

The under-10s welcomed Llanharan, Cowbridge, Bridgend Sports and Valley Ravens.

Most teams arrived with large squads split between two teams ensuring mass player participation with minimal replacements, giving all players 90 minutes' game time.

Ath Greens won three games (Ath 5 Sports 0,

Ath 6 Llanharan A 1, Ath 4 Llanharan B 1) with two draws (Ath 2 Cowbridge A 2, Ath 3 Cowbridge B 3), tries scored by Jackson (8), Evan (5), Theo (3), Albert (2), Ollie and Harry.

Ath Golds won one game (Ath 5 Llanharan A 1), drew one game (Ath 3 Ravens 3) and lost four games (Ath 2 Llanharan B 4, Ath 2 Sports 7, Ath 2 Cowbridge A 6, Ath 3 Cowbridge B 5), tries scored by Charley (6), Jamie (2), Evan (2), Tomas (2), Leo (2), Jacob, Rhys and Chaitu.

The under-11s travelled to Old Penarthians, a team that has several Vale district players in their ranks.

The Ath started strongly, going three tries clear. Penarth hit back through the forwards with a soft try but the Ath added another.

The second half started well, but Penarth hit back with a try. The game ended 35-10 to the Ath.

The under-12s welcomed Pencoed to

Newbridge Fields and both sides served up an absolute classic.

Pencoed scored the first try of the match after just two minutes of play but Joe Bruckel responded after 18 minutes, his try converted by Jack Thomas. Pencoed scored two converted tries before half-time.

After the half-time break Harrison Harper broke through for the Ath's second try but Pencoed scored against the run of play to edge further ahead.

The Ath weren't to be thwarted and earned penalty try before number 8 Will Jones' scything run took him under the posts in the 38th minute; Jack Thomas converted to pull the scores level.

The momentum swung back and forth during the last 10 minutes; Pencoed scored their final try in the 45th minute to edge ahead, but it looked as if the Ath would still have enough class to get the final score their performance so richly deserved.

With just seconds left on the clock, Joe Bruckel carved a line through Pencoed's defence, but heartbreakingly his pass was knocked forward just metres from the line and the final whistle blew, finals core 29-24.

The under-14s were away at Abertillery Park with only 14 players due to a huge injury list.

Abertillery scored first and ramped up the pressure, leading 26-0 at half-time. Straight from kick-off in the second half, Sam M intercepted a pass before Shea arrived to score to make it 26-5, however Abertillery added to their lead to make it 31-5 in response.

With another try making it 38-5 the Ath scored another as Joshhipped over and won the race to touch down, to make it 38-12 and Sam B added another to make it 38-17.

Two more tries for Abertillery made the final score 50-17.

AB

Barrivale Bridge Club results

THE results for the Barrivale Bridge Club session on March 26 are as follows:

First, Reg Dyer and Ken Hannah, 63.10 per cent; second, Mick Green and Tim Barsby, 61.31 per cent; third, Denis Mottram and Jenny Vaughan, 60.12 per cent; the handicap winners were Hilary Laurence and Vivien Liles.

New members at the club are always welcome and a partner may be arranged, if required. If you would like to join us call any of the following numbers: 01446 418380, 01446 733425, 01446 735592 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry at 7pm on Tuesday evening.

LH

Got a sports story, match report or item of interest?
Then get in touch with us - email
sport@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Cardiff Airport manager is Police's first-ever 'Special Superintendent'

SOUTH Wales Police has appointed its first 'Special Superintendent' – Jason Coleman, who works at Cardiff Airport.

By day Jason, from Llanharan, is Head of Quality Safety Health and Environment at the airport. A self-confessed proud Welshman, Jason has been working as acting Special Sergeant based at Pontypridd Police Station in charge of the deployment of 26 Special Constables to ensure secure

policing at events, walking the beat and on frontline operations.

Detective Superintendent Jason Davies said: "Jason's strategic management of quality and safety are highly desired and transferrable skills. He started with us in December 2017 as a Special Constable and this swift progression through the Special ranks is a reflection on his dedication and commitment."

"The Special Superintendent will have strategic responsibility to deliver on priorities and

ensure meaningful outcomes at a tactical level."

The police service has a national Employer Supported Policing Scheme, which is a partnership benefitting employers, their staff and the police service by releasing Special Constables and Police Support Volunteers.

Deb Barber, CEO of Cardiff Airport, said: "I would like to personally congratulate Jason on his promotion to Special Superintendent. Jason has been in a position of senior management at Cardiff Airport

for many years, during which time he has made a significant contribution to the success of the airport."

"We are strong supporters of this initiative at Cardiff Airport, and on behalf of the whole airport team I would like to wish Jason every success in his new role."

Special Superintendent Jason Coleman commented: "I am honoured to be appointed as the first Special Superintendent for South Wales Police. I thrive on this dual working life and feel I am

getting the best of both worlds, so to speak, and I get to give something back to the community, particularly in supporting young people."

"I have a child with learning difficulties who has been diagnosed as autistic, so just one of the opportunities afforded to me through this role is to give back to the community by supporting campaigns such as the Keep Safe Cymru Card Scheme. The scheme is a police initiative that supports vulnerable people with communication needs."

National Garden Scheme begins a new year

SLADE Garden in Southerndown will be open on Saturday and Sunday, April 27 and 28, from 12pm until 6pm, as part of the National Garden Scheme (NGS) – raising money for charities.

The garden tumbles down a valley surrounded by woodland, full of spring bulbs and fritillaries.

There are formal areas with a rose and clematis pergola and herbaceous borders. Tea and cake will be available and plants for sale. Entrance is £5 and children are admitted free. It is the perfect garden to visit as a family.

For more information visit www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/4563/. All of the Glamorgan garden openings are on our Instagram account, [ngsglamorgan](https://www.instagram.com/ngsglamorgan).

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Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012
Listed Building Consent / Caniatad Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No/Rhif y cais: 2019/00352/LBC
 Proposal/Cynnig: Erection of new single storey rear garden room extension. Conversion of former stable and store to provide self-contained granny annexe (including remodelling first floor bathroom). Internal alterations to kitchen and dining room including removal of part of wall between. Provision of new garden shed

Location:/Lleoliad: The Old Vicarage, Wick Road, St. Brides Major
 Listed Building/Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Application No/Rhif y cais: 2019/00354/LBC
 Proposal/Cynnig: A single-storey modern extension to the annex building & enlarging an opening in the existing external wall to create an open plan area. Internal works include existing accessible WC into storage & construction of an accessible WC within a new internal lobby between the main library hall & annex building

Location:/Lleoliad: Penarth Library, Stanwell Road, Penarth
 Listed Building/Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via <http://vognonline.planningregister.co.uk>

Dated / Dyddiedig: 11 April, 2019

V. L. Robinson Operational Manager, Regeneration and Planning, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy <http://vognonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Barry artist forges partnership between Welsh and Chinese artists

ON April 6, Vale AM Jane Hutt attended 'Paper Exchange', the first part of an international artistic partnership at BayArt Gallery in Cardiff, with First Minister Mark Drakeford.

Barry artist Mary Husted has forged a unique partnership between Welsh and Chinese artists and the Art Central Gallery in Barry will host

her latest exhibition; 'Open Books – Chinese Folding Books and Works on Paper'.

Ms Hutt said: "The pioneering art of Mary Husted is featured across the world but she has also forged this partnership with Chinese artists built on a cultural exchange using paper and Chinese calligraphy. Art Central Gallery will be displaying this over the next few weeks."

WI members learn warning signs of sepsis

ON March 18, Cadoxton Barry WI welcomed Terence Canning, who gave a very personal and important message to the members on an important but underestimated condition which affects more than 250,000 people every year – sepsis.

Tea and coffee followed with the raffles won by Avril French and Marilyn Dowling.

Our day out on March 21 was a trip to Trago Mills, followed by a very pleasant lunch at Table in Merthyr Tydfil.

Our next meeting is on Monday, April 15, at 7pm at Victoria Park Community Centre and new members are always welcome! If you are interested, contact the president Christina Whitchurch on 01446 404891.

KK



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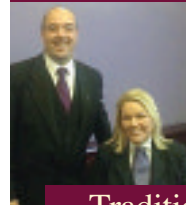
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Family Notices

CARSLEY

Brenda

After a long battle with Alzheimer's, Brenda peacefully passed away at Springbank Nursing Home on 3rd April 2019, aged 84 years. Devoted wife of 64 years to Donald, loving mother to Gaynor.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at All Saints Church, Barry, on Wednesday, 17th April at 1pm, followed by an interment at Barry Cemetery. Family flowers only. Donations may be made in memory of Brenda in favour of The Alzheimer's Society at the service.

JOHN

Adah (née Mills)

Peacefully passed away with her family around her on 28th March 2019, aged 87 years. Beloved wife of the late Bill (Prosser); loving mother to Mark, Diane and Kathryn; devoted gran to Elliot, Sophie, Jake, Evan, Will and Luke. Great-grandmother to Siena.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Cadoxton, Barry on Thursday, 18th April at 2.45pm, followed by a committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family flowers only. Donations can be made in memory of Adah in favour of Marie Curie Cancer Care at the service.

JONES

Ian Leonard

The family wish to announce the sad passing of Ian on 30th March at the University Hospital of Wales. Loving dad of Adam, Aaron and Abi. Grandad of Chloe and Hollie. Cherished son of Janice and stepdad Tim, loving brother of Stephen, Matthew, Aimee and uncle to all his nephews.

Ian will be sadly missed.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at the Chapel of Rest on Wednesday, 17th April at 4pm, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if so desired for WCADA (Welsh Centre of Action on Dependency and Addiction Ltd).

STURGESS

James William (Jim)

After a short illness on 2nd April at the Princess of Wales Hospital Bridgend, Jim of Ty Groes Farm, Bonvilton. Beloved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather.

Resting at J. Pidgeon & Son, 539 Cowbridge Road East, Victoria Park, Cardiff (02920 226604) until the funeral service on Thursday, 18th April at 1pm at Cardiff & Glamorgan Memorial Park and Crematorium, Barry, CF62 9PX.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu may be made to the Alzheimers Society, Oldwell Court, Ty Gwyn Road, Penylan, Cardiff, CF23 5DA.

HEMMING

Michael J.E.

Mike's funeral will be held on Tuesday, 16th April at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry, CF62 9PX at 1pm.

Flowers to go to Thomas Bros, Greengate, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

Go to **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news... www.glamorgangem.co.uk

WHITE

Philip James

"PHIL"

Peacefully on 1st April at the University Hospital Of Wales, Cardiff, Phil sadly passed away. He will be well known of Barry and remembered for his love of motorcycles.

Cherished son of Mo and the late Tony, much loved brother of Paul, Michael, Deborah and Cath. Special brother in law of Jill, Toni, Rob and the late Steve. A respected and loved uncle who will be greatly missed together by everyone who knew him.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until his service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Thursday 18th April at 11am. Family floral tributes only - donations if desired may be made at the service to support Kidney Research in memory of Phil.

Further enquiries please telephone 01446 407962.

DELANEY

Patricia (Pat)

Sadly past away on 25th March 2019 at Llandough Hospital, Penarth, formerly of Lee Road, Barry. Devoted wife of the late Reg Delaney, mother of Carol, grandmother of Hayley and Lee. Great grandmother of seven. Sister of Betty and the late Cyril.

Pat will be sadly missed by all her loving family and friends.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her funeral service at the Coastlands Church, Tennyson Road, Colcot, Barry on Tuesday, 16th April 2019 at 11am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery at 12 noon (family only).

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu of flowers to the Alzheimer's Society.

Traditional funeral attire please.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Anthony D.H. Thomas.

BRYAN

Gerona (Rona)

Peacefully on 5th April 2019, aged 92 years. Devoted wife of the late Reg, loving mother to Dennis and Bobby, mother-in-law to Denise, grandmother of Thomas.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at St Helen's RC Church, Barry on Tuesday, 16th April at 9.45am, followed by a committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family flowers only. Donations may be made in memory of Rona directly to The Alzheimer's Society, 43-44 Crutched Friars, London, EC3N 2AE.

MORGAN

Edna Elizabeth

Peacefully at Danygraig Care Home, Porthcawl on Saturday, 30th March 2019, Edna formerly of St. Iltyd's Road, Bridgend. Devoted wife of the late Teifi. Much loved mum of Kevin. Loved and respected mother-in-law of Susan and a loving and proud nanny of Ellen.

Friends please meet for service in Rosemount Funeral Home on Friday, 12th April 2019 at 10am, followed by interment in Bridgend Cemetery. Family flowers only by request but donations will be gratefully received for Alzheimer's Research UK and may be sent direct to 3 Riverside, Granta Park, Cambridge, CB21 6AD.

All enquiries to Rosemount Funeral Home, 19 Coychurch Road, Bridgend, CF31 3AP. Tel - 01656 653156.

SCOBIE

Margaret Ann

Peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Margaret (Marg) passed away on 29th March 2019, aged 83 years. Beloved wife of Mike; cherished mother to Sue & Ian and Sean; and adored nan of Jason & Amy, Gemma & Mark and Jamie.

She will be greatly missed by all her loving family and friends.

Resting at W.A. Brown Funeralcare, Llantwit Major until the service at 1.15pm on Tuesday, 16th April at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend CF35 6AB.

Family flowers only. Donations in Margaret's memory welcomed for Ward 8 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Coity Road, Bridgend CF31 1RQ. Please make cheques payable to 'CTMU Health Board' with 'Ward 8' and 'Margaret Scobie' on the reverse.

HEPPENSTALL

Gary Robert

Passed away after a long illness on 4th April 2019, aged 72 years.

Gary will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium on Wednesday, 17th April at 10am. Flowers may be sent directly to the funeral home.

HILL

John Robert

Suddenly, after a long illness, John Robert Hill, passed away on 3rd April. Beloved husband to Marilyn, father of Gayle, Julie, Leila, Joanna, Katie and the late Tracey. Grandfather and great-grandfather.

Resting at Robert D. Johnson Funeral Directors, 29 Holton Road, Barry. Funeral service to take place at 1pm on Wednesday, 17th April at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry. No flowers at the request of the family. Donations will be greatly received to Ward West 6 of Llandough Hospital.

BASTICK

Anthony William

Sadly passed away on 1st April 2019, aged 79 years. Dearly loved father of Julie and Jacqui, devoted grampy of Sion, Kieran, Lili and Ffion.

He will be sadly missed by many.

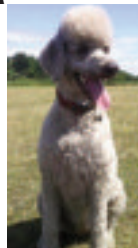
Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Tuesday, 23rd April, service 11am at St Peter's Church, Rhooose, followed by cremation 12 noon at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Donations if desired to the Autistic Society c/o the funeral director.

In Memory

'LOLA'

Our beautiful and well known Standard Poodle went to sleep very gently on Monday, 8th April 2019
Alan & Loena Sheppard.



Acknowledgements

BIRNER

Captain Alfred-Alfons

Luschie, Abi, Andrea and the family wish to thank everyone for the cards, donations and the kind heartfelt messages following the passing of Alfred, an amazing husband to the late Angela, a wonderful father and a well-respected sea captain. We would also like to thank those who attended the funeral to celebrate Alf's life and his friends from across the world for their touching messages of condolence.

We would also like to thank the district nurses and the Marie Curie team for their kindness at such a difficult time.

In addition, we are so grateful to Father Kevin Lake and Rebecca and her team at A.G. Adams Funeralcare for their care, consideration and dedication to ensure the service was a true celebration of Alf's life.

Thank you.

FOGG

Les

Les's family wish to express their sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for the lovely cards and messages of sympathy they have received.

Thanks to the Rev John James for conducting the service, and to the family and friends who attended. Appreciation to all the staff at Holme Towers for their compassion and kindness.

In Memory

BIRTHDAY MEMORIES

BLOSS

Vera Jean

15th April

A wonderful wife and mother, who I miss so very much.
Peter

Birthdays

★ Gillian ★

Wishing you a
Wonderful Birthday ★

Best wishes
from
all your
friends at
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Anniversary

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On your Golden
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Sam & Jack xxx

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Whitewash win for Bridgend Athletic RFC second XV

BRIDGEND Athletic RFC second XV emulated their first XV with a bonus point home win on the adjacent field against Rhiwbina seconds, winning 30-0.

They also made it a pointless visit to Newbridge Fields for the two Cardiff sides by going slightly better than the first XV with five tries in a 30-0 win.

It moved the Athletic to fourth place in the

Conference above fifth placed Rhiwbina, with six wins in 10 starts; and avenged an earlier last minute 5-3 defeat by the Squirrels.

Try scorers for the Athletic were full back Ryan Pickford (two), scrum half Josh Seldon, flanker Aled Pilliner and hooker Matt Greenman one apiece. Outside half Scott Jones weighed in with a penalty and conversion.

AB

Barrivale Bridge Club news

THE latest results at Barrivale Bridge Club are as follows:

First, Mike Best and Mike Close 64.29 per cent; second, Peter Millar and Tim Barsby 61.90; third, Mark Roderick and Noelle Bond 56.67.

The handicap winners were Sue Jones and RozzThomas.

New members at the club are always welcomed and a partner may be arranged, if required. If you would like to join us, call any of the following numbers: 01446

418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry at 7pm on Tuesday evening.

Players inexperienced or new to bridge playing, may attend the following sessions: Friday 10am at the Pioneer Hall for lessons and assisted play and Thursday afternoons for assisted play from 1.30-4pm at the Barry Uniting Church, Heol y Llongau, Barry CF6 3AP (the waterfront).

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Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE LICENSING ACT 2003

To whom it may concern.
We, The Old School Management Trustee Committee, do hereby give notice that we have applied to The Licensing Authority (Vale of Glamorgan Council) for the grant of a premises licence at 1 South Road, Sully, CF64 5TG known as The Old School.

The Application is for The sale of alcohol on the premises between the hours of 12.00 and 23.00 each day.

Any person(s) wishing to make representations to this application may do so in writing to the Licensing Department, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU, or by email to licensing@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk not later than 28 days after the date of this notice (as below). Representation received after this date will not be considered.

A copy of the Application can be viewed at the Civic Offices during normal office hours.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make false statements in connection with this application, the maximum fine on summary conviction being £5,000.

Signed: Richard Thomas
Date: 1 April 2019

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Double delight for Holton Road as they win cup final!

ON a glorious Sunday afternoon at Jenner Park, Holton Road Seniors clinched the Division One double by beating a spirited Cadroxton Barry 3-2.

It was a tense affair, Holton gaining the honours with two goals from Danny Morgan and a strike from Shaun Jachontow.

Holton had chances to finish the game off a few times but thanks to an incredible performance from

Cadoxton's keeper, the score was kept close.

Credit to Cadoxton as they kept fighting and always looked dangerous on the counter-attack.

Holton coach Jeff Howells said: "I can't emphasize how proud I am of my lads; winning the league in January unbeaten was a great achievement and now to secure the double is a fantastic feeling."

"I'd like to thank all the players for being a joy to coach and watch, also to Matty for the hard

work he puts in, the committee for the unseen hard work they do for the club and especially to the youngsters who turned up on mass to support us, singing their hearts out for the whole game."

"It's back to business now as we've another big game to play in the SWFA Intermediate Cup semi-final at Bridgend Stadium against The Royal Oak FC from Cwmbach."

JH

Vets takes a step closer to league title

SWANSEA Vets welcomed a Barry 55s squad to sunny Llandarcy, for this Wales Veterans over-55s league encounter and a fine 3-0 win for the visitors moves them closer to title.

The home side started with high hopes of a result reversal from November (when Barry enjoyed a 4-1 win) and opted for an adventurous five across the middle in an effort to negate Barry's passing game.

The tactic failed however, as Swansea's Jones, Clarke and Harris failed to overcome Barry's Huish and Marshall in the engine room - and in doing so allowed space for full backs Hill and Staddon to play long, probing passes to Murray and Bobbett, who galloped gleefully into opposition territory.

On one such foray a corner resulted, delivered expertly by Dupuy and gratefully headed home by Murray from two inches!

Minutes later Bobbett latched onto Hill's through ball and thought he had doubled the advantage, only to be controversially ruled out by the official.

The visitors were not to be denied however, and another pass by Marshall allowed Murray to beat the offside trap and when the ball ran kindly after a clash with the advancing keeper, Murray was left with a

simple tap-in to score his, and Barry's second.

At the other end, Barry's strong team ethic nullified Swansea's danger men, Davidson and Godwin, the latter dropping ever deeper to secure some service. Although most of Swansea's sojourns forward were dealt with comfortably by Blackie and Jones, keeper John Jones was called into spectacular action when tipping a Robinson header away.

On the half-hour, a Huish through ball dissected the Swans defence and Bobbett was only denied by the keeper who pushed the ball around the post.

Dupuy subsequently delivered another clinical corner which Jones volleyed home with aplomb, leaving defender Medwin in his wake.

Going into the interval the game was all but over.

Into the second half and Swansea were playing for pride, but it was Barry who controlled the tempo of the game and created the better chances.

Huish went close with a drive from outside the box and Murray, Bobbett and Welsh all had opportunities to increase the margin.

This result moves Barry a point behind leaders Llantrisant with a game in hand, which is, ironically, the team's next fixture - should be a humdinger!

AH

Rugby league charity publication is announced

TWO more venues have been confirmed for the launch weekend for the new WRL-approved charity magazine, which is being published to raise money for "The Danny Jones Defibrillator Fund" and "Scott's Angels".

The publication entitled "100 Months of Rugby League in Wales" will go to the clubs where the players who the causes were created for - Scott Bessant and Danny Jones - started out in rugby league.

On Saturday, May 4, it will be on sale at New Panteg RFC, the new home of Torfaen Tigers RLFC as they take on Swindon St George (kick-off 2.30pm) in their first home match of the new Southern Conference League season.

Then on Sunday, May 5, it will be on sale in the club shop at The MBI Shay Stadium before the Bedford Championship match between Halifax RLFC and Barrow Raiders (kick-off 3pm).

This is in addition to the official launch at the Welsh Charities RFC dinner on Friday, 3 May at the Mercure Holland House Hotel in Cardiff, as announced last week.

"Scott's Angels" was created to raise money for the family of former Torfaen Tigers rugby league player and coach

Scott Bessant. In the early hours of August 13, 2017, Scott was found unconscious with multiple fractures to his skull, a fractured neck, broken ribs and a fractured pelvis.

No witnesses have come forward to any attack and the police have found nothing. Scott, a father of two, is alive but is in a vegetative state. His family and friends continue to fundraise to give him some quality of life.

"The Danny Jones Defibrillator Fund" raises money to purchase defibrillators for community rugby league clubs and junior teams across the country.

These defibrillators cost around £1,000 each and provide potentially life-saving treatment to anyone suffering a cardiac arrest. The charity is named after the Halifax-born Wales RL international who died on the field whilst playing for Keighley Cougars on May 3, 2015 after suffering a cardiac arrest that was caused by a previous undetected, hereditary, heart disease.

Supporters can pre-order the publication and request to pick up in either Cardiff, Torfaen or Halifax. If pre-ordered by Friday, April 13, their name or organisation will appear in the inside cover.

Please go to <https://www.walesrugbyleague.co.uk/magazine> for more details and to order.

IG

Tennis Club smashes the start of summer season

LAST weekend, Barry Community Tennis Club hosted local rivals Penarth Windsor Lawn Tennis Club at Romilly Park for the first fixture of summer 2019.

The under-12 girls' teams, playing in the South Wales Team Tennis League (Division 2) met on Saturday afternoon where, after a wet and blustery week, the biggest issue with the weather was the brightness of the sun!

Playing for Barry CTC were Grace Mickelsen (11, Barry Island Primary) and Poppy Williams (12, St Richard Gwyn).

The girls had to play a full singles match each, followed by a doubles, and the home team won all three matches, securing a solid start to the season.

Grace has a lot of tennis experience (her mum Penny is the head coach and founding member of Barry Community Tennis Club, and involves Grace in a lot of her work with Judy Murray's 'She Rallies' initiative to get more women and girls involved with tennis).

PM

Andrew Brown is the latest Ath centurion

PROF Andrew Brown became the latest Bridgend Athletic player to reach the 100 senior Athletic appearances mark in the Second XV WRU Conference 30-0 victory over Rhiwbina second XV.

Andrew has made 66 first XV appearances and 34 second XV appearances; 80 per cent of Andrew's senior appearances were made between seasons 2003-2008.

He played throughout 2003-2004 for the second XV alongside current Athletic player/team manager Liam Griffiths, before being part of the first XV that gained promotion from the old Division 2 West to Division 1 West of the Swalec Leagues.

During those seasons Andrew played with the likes of Simon Mustoe, Robert Coles, Stuart Morris, Gareth Bartlett, Carle Ellis, Lee Grabham, Ian Hemburrow, Tom Hearne, Griff Davies and still current first XV stalwarts Wayne Fooks and Jonathon Stoker.

Andrew, although semi-retired, has always been willing to assist

whereas this was Poppy's first-ever experience of an external competition, and her first full matches with a yellow ball.

Poppy's mum Alison (a teacher at All Saints' Primary, and doubles partner to Grace's mum) commented: "Playing in the match has boosted Poppy's confidence both on and off the court. She started the match nervous and worried that she wasn't good enough but by the end of the doubles match she had a beaming smile on her face and didn't stop talking all the way home. The next day she wanted to go back to the Romilly Park courts and play more tennis!"

The club also has teams at under-8, under-9 and ladies', and their summer campaigns start in a few weeks. If you'd like to find out more about the club, check out their social media accounts or turn up at one of the sessions where a coach or existing member will be happy to chat about what the club has to offer.

PM



the club with front row emergencies. This season he has played five second XV games in the WRU Conference and last season helped the first XV on four occasions in Division 1 West Central as well as the game at Rhiwbina.

He started with the Ath at under-14 age group level and played for the Boys Club of Wales under-16 team, before playing his youth team rugby with the Athletic and progressing to the senior sides.

In his prime Andrew was also asked to play a game for Llanelli against Llandovery in the Swalec Cup.

AB

Seaweeds in rampant mood



Jake Thomas' second try - All pictures by TRACEY WILLIAMS.



Mattie Davies with the ball, Will Lampard and Jack Dryden in support.

PORHCRAWL took advantage of the perfect afternoon conditions to convincingly record the double over local rivals Taibach, racking up seven tries in the process in a 43-7 win.

The visitors initially proved a difficult outfit to crack as they purposefully stood toe to toe with the Seaweeds pack and it was always going to be a case of the Porthcawl backs having to make the best of possession.

It was fully 17 minutes before Porthcawl opened the scoring as wing Jake Thomas dived over at the corner following No 8 Leon McNally's blind-side burst and full back Ben Thomas' deft scoring pass. The try was bettered by an outstanding conversion from fly-half Josh White from the right hand touchline for 7-0.

White was in the thick of it again a short while afterwards, when he kicked ahead and regathered as the ball bounced favourably before he fed the ever-present McNally, who crossed near the posts for a great try, just reward for his run of form in recent weeks and White converted for 14-0.

Second row Will Robinson was having a solid match with his sure handling, making the hard yards and he made the space for centre Sean Wilcox to put Ben Thomas through, carried on with a super run through midfield by Jake Thomas, creating the overlap for Ben to finish off the move for another lovely try at the posts, White converting for 21-0 as Taibach struggled to cope with the Seaweeds' inventiveness behind the scrum.

As Porthcawl continued to press for the bonus point try, a breakaway by flanker Jake Furness and superb hands from prop Matt Cook down the right hand touchline put McNally clear and he in turn put Jake Thomas over for his brace try at the corner, with White's conversion this time drifting

just wide and at 26-0 the bonus point was secured.

The Seaweeds rounded off the half with a flourish, Wilcox sending co-centre Aled Davies through the middle for flanker Ben Asprea to take the scoring pass and cross at the posts, White again converting for 33-0 at the break.

The second half was barely a minute old when Porthcawl extended the lead to 38-0 as Aled Davies strode over for a try at the corner, following Cook's good approach work again, with the wind taking White's conversion wide.

Jack Robbins came on at scrum-half with Tom Davies moving to centre with Wilcox off before a brilliant run out of defence by McNally almost brought another opportunity. Then White took a bang and left proceedings, before Taibach finally got some reward for their efforts with a try from lock Ashley Jones following a driving scrum, the conversion from scrum-half Craig Clement adding deserved extras from the touchline with a super kick to make it 38-7.

This score by the visitors reflected their ability to restrict Porthcawl and keep the score down in the second half and was no more than their commitment credited.

Full-back Ben Thomas wrapped it all up for Porthcawl as he latched onto the end of Furness' midfield break that saw a quick set-up and Thomas made no mistake as he scooted over for the unconverted try for 43-7 at the end.

Porthcawl will welcome Resolven to South Road on Saturday and will be looking to avenge their recent last-kick one point defeat, 17-18.

PF

Bridgend Sports RFC mini and junior rugby round-up

THE under-7s travelled to Tonmawr for a round-robin with Tonmawr, Porthcawl, Vardre, Skewen and Pontrhydyfen.

With a few players away the Sports were delighted to field a squad to play in all five matches. There were tries for Cian Elward, Dion Williams, Isaac Dando, Jesse Jones and Riley Lewis. Logan Lewis and Danny Beale also scored their first tries for the Sports.

The squad gave one hundred percent in all the games and managed to win three games and draw two. It was a great team effort and very pleasing to see some of the younger players starting to develop.

The man of the match went to Jesse Jones who scored some fantastic tries and played all five matches, even though he had been ill.

The under-8s enjoyed a very busy morning as they played Tondy, Skewen, Briton Ferry and Pyle.

A record-breaking 136 tags were ripped from the oppositions' belts. Plenty of turnover ball was created with the whole team playing their part. Leo D'Adamo was top try scorer while top tagger was Rhydian Cronin.

The games finished: Bridgend Sports 7, Pyle 9; Bridgend Sports 2, Skewen 5; Bridgend Sports 6, Briton Ferry 5; Bridgend Sports 3, Tondy 7.

The under-9s also travelled west, this time to Tonna for



The under-12s in action.

a round-robin with Porthcawl and Bryncoch.

First up were Tonna who just edged it by a try, winning 20 points to 15. Porthcawl were next, and while the game was out of the Sports' reach the coaches were delighted to see the side improve so much from the last time the teams played, the final score Porthcawl 30, Bridgend Sports 10.

In the third game against the physical Bryncoch, the Sports defended superbly and turned over ball. Good team play and great passing was rewarded with a win for the Sports, 10-5.

The team shared tackle of the week while Sports' newest recruit Finlay Moore earned star player of the week.

The under-10s enjoyed themselves at the Bridgend Athletic Mini Rugby festival, while the under-11s thoroughly enjoyed a full weekend of rugby.

On Friday night they were privileged to be invited to take part in the Emyr Owen memorial game against Kenfig Hill RFC, fielding a mixed under-10s and under-11s side. Kenfig Hill won the game by six tries to four, but on nights such as this rugby was the winner.

On Sunday they played in a round-robin festival at Tondy where they faced Briton Ferry, Porthcawl, Skewen, Tonna, and the host club.

The Sports were off to a slow start in the first game as they went down 10-5 to Skewen, Dylan Evans scoring for the Sports. The team then played Tonna and drew 15-15 with tries from Joe Wright, Joe Perriman and Gabriel Burroughs.

Tondy were next up and in a very physical hard game both teams played well with Tondy edging it by the narrowest of margins, 5-0. The Sports then saved the best for their next game

as they led 0-14 lead at half-time.

Seven changes were made at half-time and six more tries were scored in the second half as the Sports outscored Llantwit Fardre 48-0.

The under-13s spent an enjoyable afternoon taking part in an invitation festival at Bryncoch RFC.

The team played four 25-minute games against Bonymaen, Bryncoch, Dunvant and Morriston. They won the first game 17-7 against Morriston, the second 17-5 against Dunvant, then having gone down 14-0 against a tough Bonymaen side, the players turned around the negative frustration into determination and fought back, narrowly losing 14-12.

In the last game injuries and tiredness set in as they went down 26-17 to the host side. It is clear the side is continuing to grow; they scored some great tries and played with outstanding team spirit.

The under-15s narrowly lost 14-19 away to Cowbridge.

A few decisions didn't go the Sports' way but the effort was a real positive with some good rucking and tackling. Tries came from Archie Faulkner-Lerway (converted by Sam Goodwin) and Jack Thomas (converted Owain Peters).

There were a few names in the running for man of the match but Will Price, the captain, claimed it with his strong ball carrying and turnovers.

SP

Bridgend Bridge Club news

THE latest results for Bridgend Bridge Club are as follows:

April 3: First, Tony Disley and Steve Burgoyne; second, Tony Ratcliff and Julian Pottage; third, Mike Best and David Birt. The winners on handicap were Tony Disley and Steve Burgoyne.

April 4 playing North-South: First, Stewart Norton and Ivor Hicks; second, Eileen Mahoney and Jeff Barnett; third, Frances Heslin and Dee Finch. The winners on handicap were Stewart Norton and Ivor Hicks.

Playing East-West: First, Stuart Davies and Paul Lyne; second, Marjorie Halley and Sheila Gass; third, Dilys Bowser and V Irene Thomas. The winners on

handicap were Marjorie Halley and Sheila Gass.

The Max Powell Rose Bowl competition was played on April 5: First, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams; second, Emer Disley and Linda Jenkins; third, John Evans and Steve Burgoyne. The winners on handicap were Vida Halford and Glyn Williams.

Regular club nights take place at 7pm on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding. All sessions are played in a friendly manner, visitors and new members are always welcome.

Bridgend Athletic youth take the spoils at Vardre

BRIDGEND Athletic Youth travelled to Vardre for an Ospreys B league fixture on Saturday and received a warm welcome on a sunny day ideal for running rugby.

Fantastic Athletic support for their final away fixture included a Cowboy, Mexican, Centurion, Fred Flintstone, Wally and Dai Tidy in his summer gear.

Vardre started the game the strongest and were first on the scoreboard with an unconverted try, but the Ath hit back with two tries of their own, one from Ben Owen followed by Daniel

Osaregie crossing the whitewash. Cameron Lewis added the conversion.

Vardre responded with a second unconverted try that made it 12-10 to the Ath at half-time.

Lots of half-time changes saw several under-16s joining the action. The tempo didn't drop and two further Athletic tries followed for Tom Florence and Ethan White for the Ath to lead 22-10.

A final converted Vardre try saw the game finish 22-17.

AB

Got a sports story, match report or item of interest?

Then get in touch with us - email sport@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

'The Royal' is first Welsh golf club to receive conservation accolade

THE Royal Porthcawl has become the first golf club in Wales to obtain the GEO-Certification sustainability award after receiving valuable support from the Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) 'Dune 2 Dunes' project.

The 'Dunes 2 Dunes' project, funded by the Sustainable Management Scheme, which is supported by the Welsh Government Rural Development Programme and the European Union, is a collaboration of organisations, landowners, farmers and golf courses working together to sustainably manage the Bridgend county borough coastline.

The golf club has worked hard on the large-scale removal of degenerate gorse in order to reinstate open sandy areas and encourage coastal heather regeneration. Their mission has been a huge success and will lead to healthier coastal grasslands.

Staff at the golf club have also been proactive in creating and restoring habitats for Great Crested Newts – a European protected species – and have liaised with the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Group in order to improve conditions of the existing ponds located on the course. Birds including linnets, kestrels and yellow hammers can also be found there.

Cllr Charles Smith, BCBC's cabinet member for education and regeneration, said: "Congratulations to Royal Porthcawl Golf Club on achieving this international certification which is the sign of a great golf environment. The club has a clear commitment to nature, sustainability, coastal grassland protection and habitat restoration."

The Welsh Government Rural Communities Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and the Welsh Government.

Summer comes for senior golfers

ST Mary's Golf Club's senior section's summer season kicked off with a field of 30 taking to the fairways for the first White Tee Medal competition of the year.

The sky was overcast at the outset but the promised rain held off through the morning. With limited run on the ball, however, scoring proved to be modest.

New member Alun Powell once again demonstrated his aptitude for stroke play

competition by securing third place with a net score of 74.

At the head of the leaderboard, two players were tied on net 73 but after a back nine count-back, the victory was awarded to octogenarian Bob Coombes, with former captain, Hugh Williams, placed second.

Regrettably, bad weather set in for the remainder of the week and the section's scheduled first inter-club friendly fixture of 2019 against Dinas Powys Golf Club was rained off.

NL

Old Hall Bridge Club results

THE results from Old Hall Bridge Club for April 3 were:

First, Liam Sheridan and John Beard; second, Cathie and James Mangles. Visitors are always welcome.

TP

For all the latest news from your area -
glamorgan-gem.co.uk



Knap fishing competition donations help to pay for Barry man's funeral



OUR whole family would like to say a big thank you to everybody who attended the Martin Burke fishing competition at the Knap, Barry last week and to everybody who made donations towards the funeral costs.

The winner was Milo Bjegovic – well done!

It was a very enjoyable day and thanks also go to the people who were unable to attend, but still donated.

Thanks go to Robert Cole and his team at SWSA who, although they could not make the day,



sponsored the event to ensure we had a safe and worry-free day and supplied score cards for all who competed.

David Llewellyn – thank you so much for everything you did behind the scenes, receiving donations from everyone, sorting out the raffle tickets and for your wise advice.

Further thanks to Holton Road and the other angling shops for their donations and help.

In total, from donations online, individuals and the competition, £2,000 was raised.

Robert and Jessica Wylie and Antony Burke.

Wales under-19s let down by handling against England

THE first quarter of this encounter between Wales under-19s and England under-19s saw both sides waste chances to get the scoreboard ticking over, until England were awarded a five-metre scrum on the 20 minute mark.

Scrum half Jonny Law found the white-wash, with the extra points added by full back Josh Hodge.

Wales had chances to score themselves but could only manage a penalty from outside half Josh Thomas before half-time. It was Wales that started the brighter in the second half, with prop Luke Yendle sneaking over for a try, the conversion added by Josh Thomas to give Wales a 10-7 lead.

That advantage was shortlived, though, with



No8 Morgan Strong hands off a defender - Photograph by James Kaye.

flanker Joe Howard sailing over from the restart, and Hodge again adding the conversion. The full back then added a penalty, before replacement Jack Clement crossed for England's third try; Hodge popped over the simple conversion.

England then put the game out of reach of Wales, with Josh Hodge finishing off the best move of the match to score a fine try, he also added the extra points.

A late try for full back Harri Doel gave a little respectability to the final score, but

Wales were guilty of making too many handling errors at crucial moments, and in the end England deserved the honours, on the day they were too clinical for a Wales side that fought to the final whistle.

Mike Sully

On and off the turf with Brian Lee

LLANCARFAN'S Isabel Williams and Merthyr Mawr's Jack Tudor both found themselves in the winners' enclosure at Ludlow on April 1.

Isabel rode her father Evan's *Burn Baby Byrne* to a one-and-a-half lengths win over *Mabela* in the Weatherbys TBA Mares' Handicap Hurdle and Jack, riding the seven-year-old *Hidden Charmer* in the Heath Farm Magnus Allcroft Memorial Open Hunter's Chase, won by three parts of a length from *Delegade*.

Hidden Charmer, a seven-year-old Irish bred bay gelding, is trained by former Welsh champion point-to-point rider Nick Williams at Ogmores-by-Sea. *Burn Baby Byrne* went off the 3-1 joint-favourite and *Hidden Charmer* was returned the 10-11 favourite.

Burn Baby Byrne was the second leg of a double for Evan Williams, who earlier had won the Templar Medical H4H Handicap Hurdle with *Court Royale* partnered by stable jockey Adam Wedge.

Six-year-old *Court Royale*, a 11-4 shot, won by one-and-a-half lengths from *SnapDragon*, ridden by champion jockey Richard Johnson.

DAVID'S LONG-PRICED WINNER **DAVID Prichard, 27 who hails from the Vale but who is now assistant trainer to Kayley Woolcott at South Molton in north Devon, was seen at his best at Taunton races on Thursday (April 4).**

He landed the PontisPool Equine Sports Centre Maiden Hunters' Chase on Claire Hitch's 10-year-old *Im All Set* which beat the odds-on favourite Harriet Waight's *CoCo Live*, a winner of its last four races.

David, a three pound claiming jockey, got his mount home by half-a-length in an exciting finish and those who backed the horse were rewarded with odds of 16-1.

Claire Hitch trains at South Molton in north Devon which is near the Bratton Down Point-To-Point Racecourse.

Two other Welsh riders who had plenty to smile about at Taunton were Lorcan Williams and Alan Johns. Lorcan won on the legendary trainer Paul Nicholls' *Birds Of Prey* in the Muriel Bell Memorial Novices' Hurdle and Johns took the evening meeting Maiden Open National Hunt Flat Race on Tom Lacey's four-year-old *Capac*.

Bird Of Prey got home

by a neck from *Barbados Blue*, ridden by another Welsh rider James Bowen, and *Capac* won by two-and-a-half lengths from *Bergamot*.

CHARLIE'S AINTREE SECOND **CHARLIE Price, a seven pound claiming jockey with Aberthin's Tim Vaughan, finished second on his Point Of Principle, a 25-1 outsider in the MerseyRail Handicap Hurdle at Aintree last Friday, April 5.**

Headed in the final furlong by the Irish-trained *Three Musketeers*, *Point-Of Principal* was beaten by one-and-three-quarter lengths but still earned his connections £15,900.

The winner, which was ridden by Jack Kennedy, received £42,202 for its efforts.

CONNOR'S SEDGEFIELD SUCCESS

THE Vale's Connor Brace just can't stop booting home winners.

Riding the top-weighted *Collodi*, which had finished runner-up in its previous three races, in the opening Alconex And Aqua Jet Annual Race Day Handicap Hurdle at Sedgefield last Friday, April 5 he got his 10-year-old mount home by three-and-a-half lengths from the lowly-weighted *First Of Never*.

Collodi, who is trained by Mr C Dore, went off the 2-1 favourite in a field of 10 runners.

FLINT STRIKES AGAIN

BRIDGEND trainer John Flint landed the M&M Green Haulage Handicap Chase at Ffos Las last Sunday with his 10-year-old course and distance winner *Lac Sacre*, which won by 12 lengths from the Evan Williams-trained *Sutters Mill*.

A 9-1 chance, *Lac Sacre* was ridden by Paddy Brennan.

Earlier in the day, Williams saw his *Flight To Milan* get beaten a head in an exciting finish by his fellow Vale trainer Tim Vaughan's *Chosen* in the Evans Race Handicap Chase.

Chosen, a 4-1 chance, was ridden by stable jockey Alan Johns.

Dai Rees's *Gone Platinum* under Lorcan Williams won the opening Llanelli Herald Handicap Hurdle coming home three-and-a-quarter lengths ahead of the Colin Tizzard-trained *Sizing At Midnight*.

Team effort leads Llantwit Major under-12s to victory

L L A N T W I T
Major RFC under-12s faced Penarth on Sunday for the second time this season.

The last game was in October when the game had to be stopped as Llantwit had conceded so many tries.

The team have had a turbulent season so far, having had no coach to lead them, but with the help from the under-10s coach, the manager and two of the dads, the team, led by captain Zak Grinter, went out determined to win. Working as a team and playing some beautiful passing rugby Llantwit saw themselves in the lead at half-time.

Everyone gave their all, determined not to let the win slip through their fingers as Penarth came back strongly in the second half. The Llantwit defence remained strong and the whole team dug deep to come away with



a 31-26 win.

A fantastic morning of rugby. Well done all, you should be very proud of yourselves!

Team: Sean Edwards, Will Parfitt, Gethin Sykes, Jack Painter, Jack Dundas, Keiron Martin, Evan Sterckx, Jack Robson, Abbie Cutting, Ieuan Harrison, Tomos Parry, Zak Grinter, Reuben Hickman, Maisson David, Dylan Marsh, Joseph Loveluck-Edwards, Harry Cook, Liam Lewis, Tom Price.

SH

Barry & District Mens Skittles League

DIVISION 1:

Geest 5, KP Rejects 0; Bunker Boys 271 (A Jaynes 29), 49ers 271 (R Bolt 33); British Rail 279 (B Smith 29), Blue Monkey 294 (C Holland 29); Sea View 352 (A Payne, A Elston 35), Billy Whizz 322 (C Aldred 34); Cannon Balls 304 (I Forsyth 30), Merryman 289 (E Jones 32).

League table: 49ers 39, Geest 32, Bunker Boys 23, Blue Monkey 20, Merryman 20, Posties 20, Sea View 19, British Rail 17, Willie Wombles 17, Billy Whizz 15, Cannon Balls 14, KP Rejects 14.

DIVISION 2:

BP Breakaways 257 (D E Coombes 29), H Bells 278 (B Howert 29); Mighty Dockers 258 (P Huggett 28), Exiles 264 (A Ladner 29); Ex-Servicemen 267 (A Kemp, D Kuhnell 27), Park Lads 271 (M Whyman Jr, M Whyman Snr, D Summerell 27); Hairy Lemons 274 (J Birch 29), Tynny Lads 209 (S Germon 26); Colcot Boys 293 (B Sullivan 32), Cavaliers 289 (B Kilgour 30); Witchill

Poachers 346 (R Ashby 35), Barry Park B 344 (P Gershenson 39).

League table: Park Lads 36, Cavaliers 28, H Bells 26, Hairy Lemons 24, Witchill Poachers 20, Barry Park B 20, Colcot Boys 18, Mighty Dockers 18, Exiles 17, Tynny Lads 17, BP Breakaways 14, Ex-Servicemen 14.

DIVISION 3:

Billy Bluebirds 282 (P Harris 26), Park Rangers 242 (T Power 31); Royalists 279 (C Iannucci, C Casado 29), Glenbrook Flyers 264 (D Everitt 30).

League table: Park Rangers 28, Billy Bluebirds 22, Castle Boys 20, Glenbrook Flyers 20, Royalists 19, Abercete 18, Cocoa Nuts 18, Witchill Nomads 17, Alternatives 16, C.U.D. 10, Master Mariner 0.

View all results and league tables at barryleagues.co.uk.

JW

Vale of Glamorgan Bridge latest news

RESULTS for April 1 are as follows:

First, Stella Miller & David Barwood 62.05 per cent. Second, Tony Disley & Phil Felman 61.88 per cent. Third, equal Irene Thomas & Graham Jones and Linda Pinnock & Marjorie Morris with 57.71 per cent.

Results for April 8: First John Evans and Steve Burgoyne 67.21 per cent; second equal, Marjorie Morris and Linda Pinnock and Alan and Elaine Robins with 60.71 per cent.

LE

On and off the turf with Brian Lee

COWBRIDGE'S Byron Moorcroft won the open maiden race on Jason Warner's Diplomatic at Barbury Castle and at Andoversford, Matthew Barber was successful on Claire Jones's Jungle Legend.

JACK'S HEREFORD SUCCESS

Merthyr Mawr's Jack Tudor, age 16, won the Novice Riders' race at the North Ladbury Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases held at Hereford Racecourse last Sunday, April 7.

Riding 12-year-old William Money, owned and trained by David Brace OBE of the Dunraven Stud Farm, Pyle near Bridgend, William Money made nearly all the running to win easily by six lengths from *Cawdor House Bert* with the third horse *Bridge Of Spies* a further 30 lengths away.

Jack, whose father Jonathan Tudor was a notable amateur rider in his day, has now ridden four winners between the -flags and a further three winners under Rules.

Another Welsh rider to boot home a winner was Carmarthen's Ben Jones, 19, who, riding *Princely Player*, drew away from the odds-on favourite *Undisputed*, partnered by Alex Edwards, at the penultimate fence to win by four lengths, clocking six minutes and 29 seconds, which was three seconds faster than William Money had taken to win the previous race.

Princely Player is trained by Karen Hobbs, who arrived at the racecourse just in time to declare her horse as its horsebox had broken down on the way.

National champion point-to-point rider Alex Edwards, aged 28, who rode 42 winners last season, brought this season's total number of wins to 22 when winning the Timico Mixed Open Race on the Philip Rowley-trained

Now Ben, who won by six lengths from *Green Winter*. Now Ben, an 11-year-old chestnut gelding by *Beneficial*, is owned by Mr WR Milner.

Ynysbwll's Bradley Gibbs' mount *Don Bersy* made most of the early running but eventually finished fourth of the six starters.

Pembrokeshire's Robert Luke was delighted with his five-year-old bay mare *Spark To A Flame*, who was making her racecourse debut and who came home a distance ahead of *Black Aphrodisiac* in the Jockey Club Open Maiden Race For Mares and Fillies.

Spark To A Flame was ridden by Zac Baker, age 24, who is based at Nigel Twiston-Davies' yard. Bryan Carver from Cork, took the Five, Six And Seven-Year-Old Open Maiden Race on *Salven* who, always in a handy position, won by five lengths from the Tredegar Farmers-qualified *Samdibien*.

Carver also won the second division of the Four, Five And Six-Year-Olds Point-To-Point Flat Race on the four-year-old filly *You Too Bonny Lass* and Jack Tudor rode the runner-up *Sing The Anthem*, trained by his father and owned by The Anthem Partnership.

The First Division had went to the five-year-old bay gelding *Durouyn* partnered by Zac Baker who had earlier won on *Spark To A Flame*.

POINT-TO-POINT
The Llangineir & Pentrych Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases take place at the Dunraven Stud, Pyle near Bridgend, on Saturday and an exciting afternoon's racing can be expected.

Dunraven Stud owner David Brace OBE said last weekend that all going well he could run his multiple chase and point-to-point winner William Money.

There will be pony racing before the first point-to-point race takes place at 2pm.



Hole in one for new captain

MARCH saw golfers back in action Brynhill Golf Club, where the first competition of the new season is the Barry and District Cup, a four week eclectic event where the best score on each hole, over the four rounds, is totalled.

After week three, David Cunningham and new member Paul Thomas hold a commanding three-shot lead over Peters and Doyle with three pairs one shot further behind.

Sunday also saw new club captain Jaimie Griffiths score an hole in one on the par three 16th.

AS

Centurions get ready for new season

SULLY Centurions Cricket Club begin the countdown to the new season with a pre-season friendly against neighbours Barry Wanderers, at the Wanderers' ground at Hayes Point.

The game is on Sunday, April 14, 2pm start. All players are reminded to let skipper Rhett Jones know their availability.

Mick Fisher

The Vale of Glamorgan Football League round-up

HOLTON Road lifted the Supporters Cup to complete the Division One League and Cup double.

They now look ahead to the SWFA Intermediate Cup semi-final as they chase a treble. Holton Road saw off Cadroxton Barry

3-2 on a glorious day at Jenner Park, Cadroxton Barry made Holton Road work for it with a great effort but the champions' class came through.

In the Premier Division, AFC Rhose look odds-on to get the second place spot, they saw off Sully Sports 5-2 to go one point ahead of Cowbridge Town in third but with two games in hand.

Cowbridge moved third with an impressive 2-0 win away over Island Marine while Penarth Town remain fifth, but warmed up for the Barry Cup final in a few weeks, with a 7-2 thumping of bottom side St Athan.

In Division One, Cadroxton Imps all but secured promotion with an impressive 3-0 victory

over Cardiff Airport.

The result sees Imps three points ahead of Tynnewydd with both sides having one game remaining, however Imps have much superior goal difference. Tynny would have to hope Imps lose heavily in their final game and they win in double figures for any chance.

In Division Two, the title race is blown wide open. It's a three way race as St Athan B ended Barry Vikings seven game unbeaten run with a 2-0 victory.

Leaders AFC Rhose B were held 2-2 by Barry Athletic B, so now Rhose sit three points ahead of both Vikings and St Athan but Vikings do have a game in hand.

Penarth Town B gained pay back for a midweek defeat to Cadroxton Athletic in some style, as they thrashed them 8-1.

Finally, Vale Madrid saw off Island Marine B 2-0 to bounce back from cup final disappointment and closed the gap at the bottom on Marine B to two points.

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17 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI BMT 150 4Motion SE Nav 5dr DSG Automatic, VW warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, cruise, 16k, white

£21995



14 14 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI SE Premium 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 36k, black, full leather

£15495



16 16 VOLVO XC60 2.4 D5 220 SE 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, privacy glass, white, half-leather

£19495



VW WARRANTY FEB 2020
17 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI R 5dr 4WD, VW warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, heated seats, 19k, choice, full leather

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15 15 MINI COUNTRYMAN 2.0 D Cooper Business Edition All4 5dr Automatic, sat nav, white

£12995



VW WARRANTY MARCH 2020
17 17 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI R 4Motion 5dr, VW warranty March 2020, sat nav, heated seats, cruise, 11k, blue

£23495



15 65 LEXUS NX300H 2.5 SE 5dr CVT Automatic 4WD, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, 19k, silver

£23995



RANGE ROVER WARRANTY NOV 2019
16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 SE 5dr Automatic 4WD, Land Rover warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 27k, black, full leather

£23995



15 65 JEEP RENEGADE 2.0 MultiJet II Trailhawk 5dr Automatic 4WD, pan roof, sat nav, heated seats, 36k, white, full leather

£15495



14 64 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 3.0 CRD Limited 5dr 4WD Automatic, reverse camera, dab, grey, full leather

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16 16 AUDI Q3 2.0 TDI S-Line Plus Quattro 5dr S-Tronic Automatic, 19" alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, 26k, white, half-leather

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16 16 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI N-Connecta 5dr 4WD, Nissan warranty April 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 16k, black

£13995



12 12 AUDI TT 2.0 TDI Black Edition Quattro 3dr, Bose, 19" alloys, grey, half-leather

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- 15 15 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 3dr S-Tronic, sat nav, pdc, Bluetooth, heated seats, red, full leather£19495
- 15 15 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro Convertible Automatic, sat nav, comfort pack, heated seats, blue, full leather£19495
- 16 66 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 5dr, Audi warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, heated seats, full leather, 11k, black, half-leather£23495
- 17 17 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 5dr, Audi warranty March 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 9k, black, full leather£25495
- 17 17 AUDI S4 3.0 TFSI Quattro 4dr Tiptronic Automatic, Audi warranty March 2020, sat nav, cruise, 17k, white, full red leather£31995
- 12 12 AUDI TT 2.0 TDI Black Edition Quattro 3dr, Bose, 19" alloys, grey, half-leather£10995
- 17 67 BMW 330i XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, 17k, silver, full leather£22495
- 16 66 BMW 335i XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Dec 2019, M sport + pack, LED headlights, sat nav, 19" alloys, 20k, grey, full leather£22995
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- 16 66 BMW 435i XDrive M Sport Convertible, BMW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, 22k, white, full leather£23995
- 15 65 BMW X1 2.0 D XDrive X-Line 5dr, sat nav plus, electric memory seats, 10k, black, full leather£19495
- 16 16 BMW X1 2.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty June 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 24k, met white£18995
- 16 66 BMW X1 XDrive D M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 18" alloys, 21k, blue£19995
- 16 66 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI Titanium 5dr 4x4, Ford warranty Dec 2019, appearance pack, 19" alloys, blue, half-leather£13495
- 14 14 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI SE Premium 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 36k, black, full leather£15495
- 16 16 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI BlueDrive Premium SE 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty July 2021, sat nav, pan roof, heated seats, reverse camera, 19" alloys, 20k, silver with full leather£20995
- 16 66 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI BlueDrive Wiggins Edition 5dr 4WD Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty Dec 2021, pan roof, sat nav, 23k, white, full leather£22995
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- 16 16 HYUNDAI TUCSON 2.0 CRDI Premium SE 5dr 4WD Automatic, Hyundai warranty May 2021, sat nav, pan roof, 16k, black£18995
- 16 66 HYUNDAI TUCSON 2.0 CRD Premium 4WD 5dr Automatic, Hyundai warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 19" alloys, 18k, grey, full leather£18795
- 16 66 INFINITI QX30 2.2 D Premium Tech 5dr DCT Automatic, Infiniti warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 21k, grey, full leather£18995

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- 15 65 LEXUS NX300H 2.5 SE 5dr CVT Automatic 4WD, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, 19k, silver£23995
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- 17 67 SEAT ATECA 2.0 TDI Xcellence 5dr DSG Automatic 4drive, Seat warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 21k, orange, full leather£21495
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17 17 AUDI Q2 1.6 TDI S-Line 5dr, Audi warranty April 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 17k, white, half-leather.....£20995
15 15 AUDI Q3 2.0 TDI SE 5dr, LED headlight pack, Privacy glass, 17"Alloys, 25k, blue.....£15795
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15 64 BMW M135i 3.0 M Sports 5dr automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, 34k, orange, full oyster leather.....£16995
16 16 BMW 218 ISE 2dr Convertible, BMW warranty Sept 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, dab, pdc, 17k, red.....£13995
12 62 BMW 318 DSE 4dr, 18"alloys, heated seats, dab, black, full leather.....£8995
12 62 BMW 318 D M Sport 4dr, cruise, privacy glass, white, full leather.....£10495
15 65 BMW 320 D BluePerformance Plus 4dr Automatic, sat nav, sport seats, black, full leather.....£13995
16 66 BMW 320 D M Sport GT 5dr, BMW warranty Dec 2019, pro sat nav, heated seats, cruise, silver, full leather.....£15495
16 66 BMW 420 D M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr, BMW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, heated seats, choice, full leather.....£19495
16 66 BMW 430 D M Sport Gran Coupe Automatic, BMW warranty Sept 2019, pro sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, black, full leather.....£19795
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18 18 BMW 520 I M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty July 2021, sat nav, xenons, cruise, 15k, white, full leather.....£26495
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15 15 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Econetic Titanium 5dr, sat nav, cruise, dab, aux, black.....£8295
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17 17 HONDA CIVIC 1.5 VTEC Sport 5dr (180bhp), Honda warranty April 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 23k, blue.....£14995
16 16 HYUNDAI I30 1.6 CRD SE 5dr, Hyundai warranty March 2021, air-con, cruise, Bluetooth, red.....£8795
15 65 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRDI BlueDrive SE Nav 5dr, Hyundai warranty until Jan 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 27k, choice.....£12995
18 68 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRDI BlueDrive Go SE 5dr, Hyundai warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 3k, white.....£19295

16 66 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D (180) R-Sport 4dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, 18"alloys, heated seats, choice, full leather.....£18295
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17 66 KIA PICANTO 1.25 Sport 5dr, Kia warranty Feb 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 8k, black, half-leather.....£8995
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15 65 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 ED4 SE 5dr, contrast roof, privacy glass, white, full leather.....£20995
17 17 MAZDA CX-5 2.2 D Sport Nav 5dr, Mazda warranty April 2020, sat nav, BOSE, cruise, 21k, grey, full leather.....£17995
15 65 MERCEDES A180 1.5 CDI Sport 5dr Automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, 35k, silver.....£13795
16 16 MERCEDES A200 2.2 D Sport Executive 5dr, sat nav, blue, full leather.....£13795
18 67 MERCEDES C300H AMG Line Hybrid 4dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Feb 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, silver, 6k, full leather.....£24995
16 16 MERCEDES C350 E Sport Premium Plus Estate Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, grey, full leather.....£21995
16 66 MERCEDES CLA200 D AMFG Line Coupe Automatic, Mercedes warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, cruise, 30k, white, half-leather.....£19995
14 64 MINI PACEMAN 1.6 D COOPER Coupe, chilli + tic pack, 17"black alloys, 30k, white.....£9495
16 16 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI Acenta Premium 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 25k, white.....£9995
15 15 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr, pan roof, cruise, privacy glass, grey.....£11995
17 67 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr Xtronic Automatic (7-Seater), Nissan warranty Oct 2020, pan roof, cruise, 9k, blue.....£16995
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17 17 RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.6 DCI Energy Dynamique Nav 5dr (7-Seater), Renault warranty July 2021, sat nav, 20"alloys, 34k, blue, half-leather.....£13995
16 65 RENAULT KADJAR 1.5 DCI Dynamique S 5dr, Renault warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, 19"alloys, cruise, 19k, choice.....£11995
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17 67 SEAT LEON 1.4 TSI 125 FR Technology 5dr, Seat warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 8k, choice from.....£12795
18 67 SEAT LEON 1.4 EcoTsi FR Technology Estate DSG Automatic, Seat warranty until Feb 2021, sat nav, cruise, met grey.....£12995
17 67 SKODA KODIAQ 1.4 TSI Edition 150 5dr DSG Automatic (7-Seater), Skoda warranty Nov 2020, pan roof, sat nav, heated seats, 8k, brown, full leather.....£24495
16 66 SKODA OCTAVIA 2.0 TDI SE-L 5dr, Skoda warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, dab, black.....£11295
16 16 SUZUKI VITARA 1.6 SZ-T 5dr, Suzuki warranty Aug 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, dab, 25k, red.....£10995
12 12 TOYOTA YARIS 1.33 VVTi SR 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, black, half-leather.....£4795
15 64 VAUXHALL ADAM 1.4 I (100) Slam 3dr, 18"black alloys, air-con, 43k, black.....£6495
17 67 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTi Elite 5dr, Vauxhall warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, 20k, silver, full leather.....£11295
15 15 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 T (100bhp) Limited Edition 3dr, cruise, 17"black alloys, 42k, red.....£5995
18 18 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 T White Edition (150) 3dr, Vauxhall warranty July 2021, air-con, cruise, white.....£11295
16 66 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTi 170 SRI VX-Line 5dr Automatic, Vauxhall warranty Oct 2019, 19"alloys, sat nav, cruise, 22k, black.....£12295
16 16 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 Exclusive 5dr, 18"alloys, cruise, Bluetooth, choice.....£7995
08 08 VW BEETLE 1.4 Luna 3dr, electric windows, alloys, 25k, beige.....£3795
16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GTD 5dr, sat nav, cruise, heated seats, white.....£14295
16 66 VW POLO 1.4 TSI ACT Blue GT 3dr, VW warranty Dec 2019, electric glass sunroof, Bluetooth, cruise, choice.....£11295
17 67 VOLVO V40 2.0 T3 (152) R-Design Pro 5dr, Volvo warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, 18"alloys, 18k, choice.....£14495
18 68 VOLVO V40 2.0 T3 (152) R-Design Nav Plus 5dr, Volvo warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, red, only 239 miles, half-leather.....£16995
16 16 VOLVO V60 2.0 D3 (150) R-Design Estate, cruise, aux, usb, red, half-leather.....£12495



15 65 MERCEDES CLA200 D Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, privacy glass, 33k, grey, half-leather
£16995



16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GTD 5dr, sat nav, cruise, heated seats, white
£14295



16 66 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 S 6dr Automatic, Mini warranty Dec 2019, chilli + JCW pack, Media – sat nav, pan roof,
£17995



15 15 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, air-con, choice
£5295



17 66 TOYOTA AVENTIS 1.6 D-4D Active 4dr, air-con, cruise, Bluetooth, 16k, choice
£10995



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Stubborn Tondy earn impressive win



Paul Smithson - all pictures by GARETH ANTHONY.

TONDU RFC's performance against Bonymaen again showed a stubbornness that has become a trademark of a revitalised Waterwheelers during the second half of their campaign.

An early penalty from Josh Tatchell was cancelled out by one from Richard Cunniffe for the home side, before a piece of brilliance from outside half Paul Smithson put Tondy back in control.

A chip over the top by the No10 saw the ball bounce back over the heads of the hapless defenders for full back Matthew Murphy to collect; he then engineered a wonderful flick pass inside for Smithson to crash over. Tatchell added the conversion to give Tondy a 10-3 advantage.

Second in the table, Bonymaen then rallied, but it seemed nothing they attempted was going to fracture the Tondy wall, and in another excursion into the Bonymaen half the visitors produced a second sensational try, this time finished off by winger James Leppard,



James Leppard scores for Tondy.

to make the half-time score Bonymaen 3, Tondy 15.

The second period saw the home side launch attack after attack, but as we moved into the final 10 minutes, they only had a Cunniffe penalty to show for all their hard work. This was down to a magnificent defensive display from the Waterwheelers.

With eight minutes on the clock Bonymaen did manage a try from flanker Nicky Clancy, but then Tondy just shut out the shop again to hold out for a memorable and deserved win.

You couldn't really

name a man of the match, because every player put in a shift, although full back Matthew Murphy did catch the eye, and the game management of outside half Paul Smithson has been evident in the performances of a revitalised Tondy during the second half of the season.

This Saturday Brynamman are the visitors to Pandy Park, kick off 2.30pm, for the final game of the season – roll on next season, we are looking forward to it already.

Mike Sully

Pencoed RFC just edged out in close game

THIS Division 2 West Central league fixture between Pencoed and Ystradgynlais was never going to be easy for the former.

However, they started the game strongly. Following concerted pressure on the visitors, the ball was moved down the blindside where an overlap was created for winger Jamie Dyer to scamper over and score at the posts after five minutes. Adam Williams duly added the extras.

Ystradgynlais then woke themselves up and scored an unconverted try, following a series of pick and goes. Pencoed scored next, Adam Williams kicking a penalty. Then, Jack Thompson made a scintillating break from a breakdown.

As he was hauled down, he offloaded to the supporting Jamie Dyer who scored wide out. The conversion failed.

Pencoed finished off the scoring in the first half when fullback Tom Cross was worked clear to score wide out, the conversion rebounding off an upright.

The second half was a complete contrast. The home side found themselves on the wrong side

of the official's whistle and started to concede a string of penalties. This allowed Ystradgynlais to score a converted try and kick a penalty.

Pencoed's cause was not helped when they were shown two yellow cards, and Ystradgynlais scored a converted try during the second incident which put them 20-22 in front.

Pencoed weren't done, however, and when back to 15 players they took the game to Ystradgynlais and were rewarded when Adam Williams kicked a penalty.

Both sides then went in search of the all-important next score – unfortunately for the home side, Ystradgynlais kicked a fine penalty on 79 minutes and the remaining moments of the game were frantic to say the least.

There were no more scores but enough time for the official to award a yellow card to both No 13s for what can only be described as a difference of opinion. The final score was 23-25.

Thanks to Pencoed's four current youth players who all acquitted themselves well, and also to the rest of the squad for their endeavour.

SHD

Tondy Youth stay undefeated after close match

TONDU RFC youth set off to face Upper Swansea Valley in what we all knew would be a tough encounter, especially with players out with injury.

All the boys had one thing on their mind throughout the game and that was to win, to ensure they remained undefeated and one step closer to winning the league.

The youth started off relaxed, allowing USV to score first in the opening moments of the game, only for Tom Painter to finish off a try, converted by Dan Thomas to make it 7-7. Tondy began to dominate USV in attack and defence, frustratingly letting opportunities go with knock-ons or forward passes.

Morgan Williams was next to score with a brilliant solo try, side-stepping his way through four defenders before diving over the line from 40 meters out; this was converted by Dan Thomas to make it 14-7. Just before half-time,

USV levelled the score with a similar try where a USV centre broke through the line and beat multiple defenders to draw the scores level at 14-14 at half-time.

The boys felt good going into the break and moments into the second half, Ioan Billingham crashed his way over in the corner; the difficult kick was put over well by Dan Thomas to make it 21-14.

USV began to get frustrated and a USV player received a red card, and while USV were not going to give up, Tondy kept them out.

Dan Evans saw a yellow card after a build up of team penalties, and with both teams having 14 players, it became anyone's game, both defending and attacking with determination.

The game went back and forth until the final whistle came, the final score 21-14 to Tondy.

The club look forward to hosting Mumbles youth on Saturday at Pandy Park, 2.30pm kick off.

Joe Allen



Matthew Harris scores for Maesteg Celtic.

Important win for Maesteg Celtic RFC

MAESTEG Celtic continued their battles at the bottom of Division One West Central when they faced promotion challengers Glynneath at Garth Park.

Celtic made nine changes to the team that bravely won a bonus point last week against Ammanford.

Glynneath dominated possession for the first 20 minutes. They maintained a high tempo and stretched the Celtic defence to its limits but were unable to break through the rush defence of the new centre partnership of Sam Mines and Harrison Evans. Their only reward was a penalty for offside in front of the posts.

As the game progressed the Celtic back row of Bleddyn Griffiths, Nathan Adams and Captain Oliver Petty began to win the contact area.

Harrison Evans kicked a well-earned penalty into the visitors' 22. Jumper Mark Hillier-Rees won the lineout and the pack drove him near to the try line.

Repeated drives by props Sean Lambert and Mark Wilkins and second row Rhys Bevan Jones put immense pressure on the defence before flanker Bleddyn Griffiths and hooker Ashley Poole broke away for Poole to touch

down. Outside half Matthew Harris converted to put Celtic in the lead.

Glynneath took the lead in the second half when a poor kick by Celtic was returned at pace for a try and conversion.

Coach Kieran Power brought on brothers Damien and Mathew Phillips to the front row and Celtic took control up front.

A power scrum on halfway gave half backs Liam Healy and Matthew Harris a good ball which allowed them to find centre Sam Mines arriving at pace.

He ran through the defence untouched and drew the full back before passing to Harris for a touch-down under the posts. Harris converted.

The remainder of the game was all Celtic with their pack in full command.

Any attempt by the visitors to take play into the Celtic half was returned with interest by Celtic back three of Chris Jones, Kristian Jenkins and Shaun Raymond.

The pressure exerted by the Celtic pack resulted in a yellow card for the visitors and a penalty try for Celtic for a final score of 21-10.

The whole Celtic team was voted man of the match.

KS

Dominant shift in the sun for Brackla

THE sun was shining in Brackla and it was a lovely Saturday afternoon for some running rugby.

From the start that's what it looked like Brackla RFC intended to do against Llandrindod Wells when after only two minutes, the visitors knocked on and after some quick hands by the backs, Jamie Lorimer was over for his first try of the day to make it 5-0.

After the poor start Llandrindod showed the power of their forwards and this soon paid off as they soon found themselves in Brackla's 22; Brackla conceded a penalty, which missed the target.

Following the restart Brackla were awarded a scrum, and after some quick hands they were back in Llandrindod's corner for a lineout. Some clean ball off the top by Roger Owens and a nice miss-pass from Jayce Evans left Lewis Salter to give a cheeky sidestep to go in over the line and make it 10-0 to Brackla.

Winger Jamie Lorimer then crossed for his second unconverted try of the day and it wasn't until the half-hour mark that Llandrindod managed to get on the scoresheet after some quick ball off a scrum saw their winger go over for an unconverted try, taking the score to 15-5.

The game seemed to quieten towards half-time but a delayed floating pass from fly half Jayce Evans made the field open up and allowed centre Ken Morris to cruise in under the posts for Brackla's first converted try, the half-time score Brackla 27, Llandrindod Wells 5.

The battle continued at the beginning of the second half but it wasn't until 18 minutes into the half, after a poor clearance kick found its way into full back Salter's hands, that some good link-up work from the prop Evan Stanton got the ball out to winger Jamie Lorimer, and he bumped off the Llandrindod full back to go over for his hat trick, and make it 27-5 to Brackla.

As we approached the half-hour mark of the second half, you had to start to wonder how long the Llandrindod pack could keep up their pace, but their pressure soon paid off when Brackla's winger picked up a yellow card which led to them crossing the line for their second try of the day, making it 27-12.

Winger Zak crossed the line for Brackla with his first touch of the ball to make it 31-12, and with Llandrindod looking tired, the Magpies took control of the game.

Salter went over for two more tries, one converted, and scrum half Jamie Evans popped up out of nowhere to sneak over the line.

With five minutes to go Brackla had a scrum in their own 22, and quick hands from the base and a change of direction from the backs allowed some good link play from the Lorimer brothers which ended with the ball in the experienced hands of Ken Morris, and he finished the game with a converted try in the corner to make the final score 58-12 to Brackla.

MP

Tondy under-13s claim festival title



TONDU RFC under-13s came away Scarlets Rugby Festival 2019 Bowl Champions at Whitland RFC.

Well done to all, you did your club proud.

Mike Sully



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Bridgend Athletic maintain winning ways



Second row Ben Cording crosses for the opening score. – ALL PICTURES BY JOHN CANON.



Captain Ben Howe leading to fly half Luke Bevan scoring under the posts.

THIS fixture between Bridgend Athletic and Rhiwbina, which was postponed earlier in the season as a result of inclement weather, gave the Ath a season's double over the visitors with a 28-0 win.

In the programme notes of the original fixture, scheduled for December 1, 2018 it read that Rhiwbina had secured six out of seven wins and were promotion contenders with 27 points, two behind neighbours Glamorgan Wanderers but with two games in hand.

The Ath had played nine games with only three wins and were 10th in the table with 14 points.

Currently the Wanderers are top of the table and were crowned champions after an emphatic 30-10 victory at St Joseph's while the Athletic, after eight consecutive victories, are lying in second place with one game remaining, but both Rhiwbina and Rumney have three games in hand.

Having lost four games in succession Rhiwbina were looking to return to winning ways but the home side's defence was superb in not allowing the Squirrels to register a single point.

The Athletic started in a determined

mood and, after a solid 10 minute opening period, surged into a seven point lead with a Ben Cording try converted by Luke Bevan.

The lighter home pack were giving the visitors a torrid time in the scrums and this pressure resulted in captain Ben Howe breaking away to send stand-off Bevan under the posts for a try, which he duly converted for a 14-0 lead.

Further scrum pressure gave the Ath a strike against the head for no 8 Ben Davies to pick up and make good ground before drawing the Rhiwbina outside-half Dylan Casella and pass to Dan James on a supporting run for an excellent score.

Luke Bevan added the conversion for a 21-0 half-time lead.

With a strong wind behind them it looked as though the home side would pile on the points. But the inability to judge the strength of the wind with their tactical kicks, coupled with an extremely high penalty account, denied them the continuity to build on the score.

To their credit Rhiwbina spun the ball at every opportunity but to no avail as the men in green and gold held their defensive line superbly.

Patience finally paid off when, in the last quarter, a fantastic rolling maul from 15 metres out saw replacement prop

Matthew Norman cross wide out. Luke Bevan landed an excellent conversion in difficult wind conditions to secure a 28-0 victory.

The Athletic coaching team were well pleased with the result, it being the first game this season that the visitors had failed to register a score. The man of the match award went to hooker Lee Murphy.

Athletic's last game of the season is on Saturday, away to St Joseph's, kick off 2.30pm.

The club are grateful to the Old Boys Association for sponsoring this game.

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